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1836—1886.

THE
REFORM CLUB:
ITS FOUNDERS AND ARCHITECT.

BY

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"The Art of Michelangelo;" "Catalogue Raisonné of the Works of William Woollett;"
"Collectors Marks," "Raphael's Sonnet," etc., etc.*

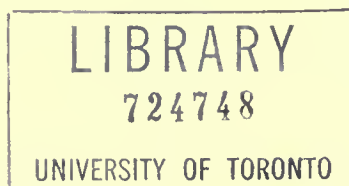
WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY THE AUTHOR.

LONDON:
Bernard Quaritch,
15 PICCADILLY.

1887.

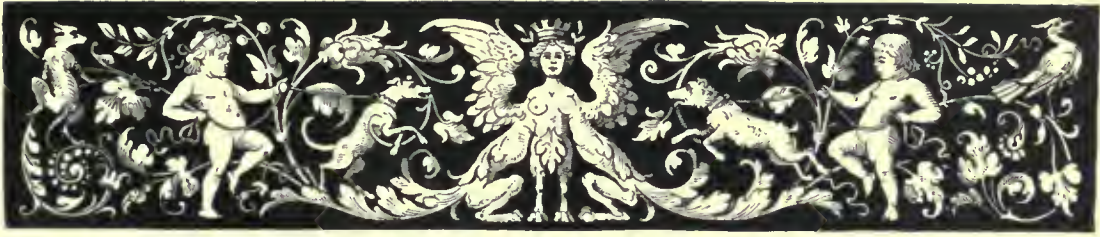


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PREFACE.

IN the personal feelings by which an Author may be actuated in the publication of a work, the reader cannot be supposed to feel much interest ; and if a book answer to its pretensions, he is probably satisfied, without caring to be informed of the why and wherefore of its existence.

To trace the history of a Building, Society or Club from its inception to its highest and most successful stages, to show the gradual steps by which it rose to eminence, and to recount the illustrious personages who have in each succeeding period of its history, contributed to advance its reputation, is a pleasing and profitable employment ; but when the Institution, whose career is thus traced, has been a home and a centre of pleasant intercourse to its Members, it acquires special claims of a personal character. The volume now offered affords no scope for the display of exceptional literary skill, even did I possess such. My sole aim in its production has been to tell the story of the Reform Club with accuracy, and with such brevity as the importance of the material which has been derived from authentic sources exclusively allowed.

By adding some illustrations, I may have contributed to the interest of the work. As to their artistic merit I ask the kind indulgence of my reader.

LOUIS FAGAN.



CHAPTER I.

THE general resemblance that exists between the Arts is not confined to their operations and effects, but is visible in their very origin. If we trace each home to its source, we shall find that one and all have, in the first instance, been contrived to meet some actual want of mankind. The first efforts resulting from this urgent motive display the rudiments of almost every invention; and these efforts have been converted by the refinements of succeeding ages into the ornaments of polished life.—Vitruvius, we read, could discern the principles of Architecture in a cottage; and the rude songs and coarse drawings by which barbarous nations recorded their sports and triumphs, present us with the dawnings of those Arts, which afterwards enlightened the most advanced periods of civilized society.

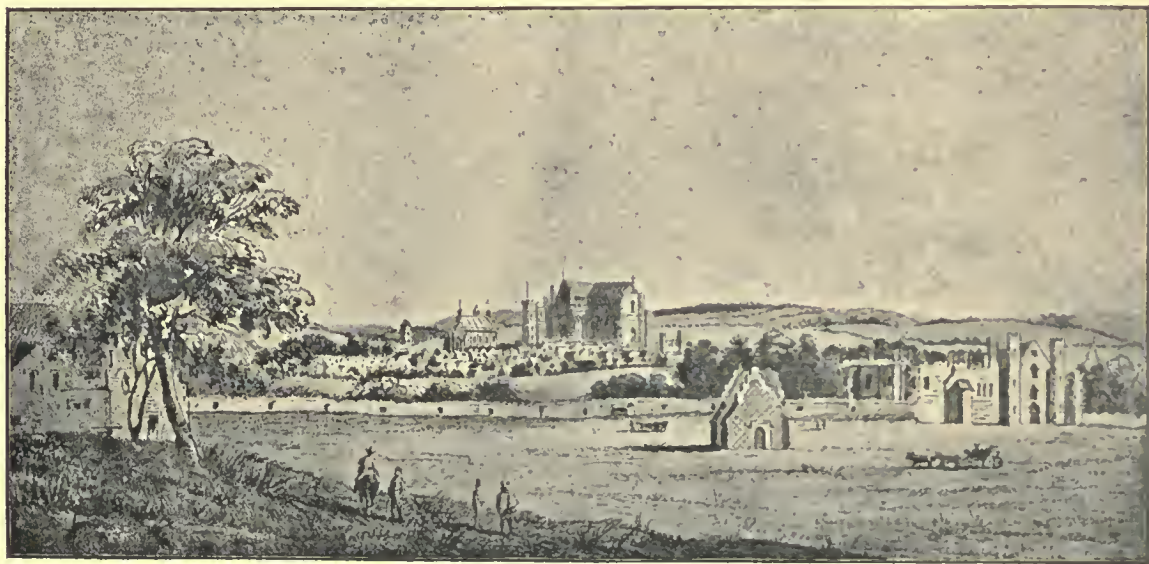
Architecture, the offspring of necessity, is a creative art. Its infancy was marked by the most simple and useful combination of forms and materials; but as civilization progressed, more was required than mere protection from the elements. Architectural laws were founded on immutable principles, immediately derived from nature herself; though, unlike the other Fine Arts, nature cannot be denominated a model. The productions of Architecture have always been ranked among the proudest monuments of every country in which the Arts have flourished: they are, indeed, ornaments which indicate the pitch of refinement and civilization to which a nation has attained. The Committee appointed for superintending the erection of a great building has, therefore, no trifling duty to fulfil. If the disgrace and shame which must attend the choice or approval of inappropriate and tasteless designs attached to them alone, no person would feel inclined to interfere in the matter, or be anxious about their decisions; but in the eyes of men of taste, the credit of the country is at stake, and an irreparable injury is done to its Artistic reputation, if the most competent Artists are not employed in the construction of Buildings of a National or Public character.

It is with this view that I place before the reader an account of a Building, which, whether considered from the point of view of practical usefulness or of architectural merit, may be pronounced, not only an admirable, but also an exquisitely finished structure.

The ground upon which the REFORM CLUB now stands is classic, and some account, however slight, of its topographical history cannot fail to prove interesting. Lord Macaulay in referring to the state of this country, in the time of the Stuarts, said: "Could the England

“ of 1685 be, by some magical process, set before our eyes, we should not know one landscape in a hundred, or one building in ten thousand. The country gentleman would not recognise his own fields. The inhabitant of the town would not recognise his own street.”

Pall Mall forms an important part of the Parish of St. James's, Westminster, the name of “West-Minster” being given to distinguish the Abbey, dedicated to St. Peter, from the Church of St. Paul, in the City of London. Westminster Abbey, or the Collegiate Church of St. Peter, is so named because it was situated in the western part of the Metropolis, and was originally intended for the Church of a monastery. It was founded by Sebert, third King of the East Saxons, in the year 610. The land, previous to the erection of the Abbey, comprised a marshy island, separated from the shore by a short branch of the river Thames, which has been long since converted into a sewer. In the year 785, the island acquired the name of “Thorney,” apparently in consequence of a thick growth of thorns and briers; it was about 470 yards long and 370 yards broad.



The view before us, taken from the north side of Pall Mall, is from an interesting drawing, said to have been executed in the year 1450, and formerly in the collection of Mr. John Towneley, F.R.S. It shows part of the Village of Charing; the Clock Tower in Palace Yard; Westminster Hall; the Abbey, before the towers were erected; the stone Conduit, where St. James's Square now is; and St. James's House.

The first attempt at local Government in this district appears to have been the Statute passed in the twenty-seventh year of Queen Elizabeth. It gave the maintenance of law and order to the Dean and Burgesses of Westminster.

The place where the game of Pall Mall was played, from which the present street takes its name, seems to have been first used for this purpose about 1630. In the *Calendar of State Papers, Domestic Series*, 1631-33, page 240, No. 68, there is an entry to this effect:—"Presentment of David Mallard, Shoemaker to the King, for erecting a dwelling-house on a piece of ground in St. James's-field, taken a year or two ago by John Bonnealle, a Frenchman, now deceased, under pretence of making a Pall Mall." This Mallard, or as he is called in the Council Register, *Mallock*, undertook to demolish the "obnoxious" building by Candlemas Day, in 1632; but Charles I. countermanded the order. In the same Calendar (p. 286, No. 31,) we read "that the House in St. James's Fields being taken down, they suffer the garden to remain entire, with the trees and pales about it, to the benefit of the poor widow that possesses it." Five years later, on the 30th of September, a grant was made to Archibald Lumsden, "for sole furnishing of all the 'Malls,' bowls, scoops, and other necessities for the game of Pall Mall, within his grounds in St. James's Fields, and that such as resort there shall pay him such sums of money as are according to the ancient order of the game."—(Calendar, 1635, p. 404, No. 67). In the month of September, 1660, "Isabella, daughter of Lumsden, and servant to his late Majesty," petitioned for "one of the tenements in St. James's Field, as promised to her father, who spent £425 14s. in keeping the sport of Pall Mall." The said sum it seems was disbursed in purchasing "bowls, malls, and scopes, 1632 to 1635, and in repairs in Pall Mall when the Queen went thither to lie in of the Lady Mary."

Soon after the Restoration, a new street, known (for a short time only) as "Catherine Street," in honour of Queen Catherine of Braganza, was laid out between St. James's and Charing Cross. But it was King Charles I. who planned the Mall in the Park; where clusters of houses and the *Rookery*, or some religious building, so termed, existed.

The Mall here alluded to was not the place originally used for this game, adjacent to the Park, and of which the tradition has been preserved in the name of the street. Immediately on his restoration Charles II. commenced extensive works in the Park; the canal was made, a machine constructed for raising water, and a decoy formed, with a great variety of fowls, for the royal pleasure. The new Mall, now Pall Mall, on the north side, was also made; and thither the King, who was fond of the game, constantly resorted. Charles had been proclaimed in London, May 8th, 1660. On the 16th of September, in the same year, Pepys wrote:—"To the Park where I saw how far they had proceeded in the Pell-Mell." And again, on April 2nd, 1661:—"To St. James's Park, when I saw the Duke of York, playing at Pelemele, the first time that I ever saw the sport."

The *Jeu de Mail*, or Pall Mall, is fully described by Joseph Lauthier, whose account has been translated into English by R. C. A. Prior, in a small but valuable work, entitled: "Notes on Croquet: and some Ancient bat and ball games related to it." London, 1872, 8°. In the "Archæological Journal," vol. xi., p. 253, Mr. Albert Way tells us that, so far as is known, the first English writer who has made allusion to the favourite French game of *paille-maille*, is Sir

Robert Dallington, who, in his "Method for Travell," published in 1598, page 146, says:—"Among all the exercises of France, I preferre none before Palle-Maille, both because it is a Gentlemanlike sport, not violent, and yeelds good occasion and opportunity of discourse, as they walke from the one marke to the other. I marvell, among many more Apish and foolish toyes, which wee have brought out of France, that wee have not brought this sport also in England." Mr. Way adds, "From these notices it appears that the introduction of the game into England may have taken place towards the earlier years of the XVIIth century, under the influence probably of the gallant Prince of Wales, whose untimely death occurred in 1612. Mr. Cunningham remarks, in his excellent Handbook for London, that it is usual to ascribe its introduction to Charles II., but that it was brought into England from France in the reign of Charles I., perhaps earlier. We may suppose that it was not much in vogue before the middle of that century, or it may have been amongst fashionable amusements disused in the more austere period of the Commonwealth."

In the Department of MSS., British Museum (Add. MSS. No. 15,857, folio 149,) there is a letter written by Sir Richard Browne, the English Resident at Paris, addressed to John Evelyn, dated Paris, 29th September, 1659, in which he says:—"As soone as the weather and leasure permitts you shall have the account you desire of our Paille-Mailles, which are here onely three (viz.), the Thuilleries, the Palais Royall and the Arsenall—all of which I will pace and take the distance of the arch by the English foote, etc."

In the same Institution are now preserved some original malls and balls, found in the old house in Pall Mall, No. 68; these were presented to the nation by Mr. George Vulliamy, son of the well-known clock maker, Benjamin L. Vulliamy, in March, 1854. The ball is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches



in diameter, and the mallet 3 feet 10 inches in length; on it is stamped LATOUR and a castle. As to the etymology of Pall-Mall, Nicot, in the "Thresor de la langue Francoyse," says:—*Palemaille*: "Videtur nomen habere à palla et malleo, quia revera maleus est quo impellitur globus ligneus.—*Mail* vient du Latin maleus, et signifie une massue à deux bouts plats, emmanchée en potence d'un manche moyennement long. L'instrument appelé *Pallemail*, que l'Italien dit *Pallemaglio*. Estant le composé de ces deux, palla et mail, donne assez à entendre la figure dudit mail, de la matière duquel ne peut chaloir, soit fer, plumb, bois ou autre, pour veu que la figure y soit." Florio, who compiled his Italian Dictionary about

1570, renders *Palamaglio* "a pale-maile, that is, a sticke with a mallet at one end to play a wooden ball with, much used among gentlemen in Italy." And Randle Cotgrave, in his "Dictionarie of the French and English Tongues," London, 1611, 8^{vo} tells us that *Palemaille* is "A game, wherein a round box bowle is with a mallet strucke through a high arch of yron (standing at either end of an alley one), which he that can do at the fewest blowes, or at the

"number agreed on, winnes." Finally, Thomas Rugge, in his *Diurnall*, 1659 to 1672 (Add. MSS. in Brit. Mus. fol. 249*b*), mentions that "a Pele Mele was made at the further end of St. James' Park, which was made for His Majesty to play, being a very princely play." In September, 1661, he records that the road formerly used for coaches, &c., from "Charing Cross to St. James', by St. James's Park wall and the back side of Pall Mall, is now altered, by reason of a "new Pall Mall, is made for the use of His Majesty in St. James' Park by the wall, and the dust "from the coaches was very troublesome to the players at Mall." This game, however, fell into disuse about the end of the first quarter of the last century, when cricket began to be played.

There exists a view of St. James's Park, looking towards Whitehall, which has supplied an illustration of the game of Pall Mall, given in Knight's "London," vol. 1., p. 195. The original, from which a reduced engraving has been given in Smith's "Antiquities of Westminster," p. 24, was in the possession of Mr. W. Stevenson, F.S.A., and the drawing is supposed to have been executed about 1660. A figure of Charles II. is introduced, and four persons are represented in the act of striking a ball through a ring at the top of a tall post. This may be the game of Pall Mall.

Among the first inhabitants of Pall Mall were, Dr. Sydenham, the celebrated physician, in 1658; Nell Gwynn, in 1670, (her house* was near No. 79, and the garden behind it looked into St. James's Park); Sir William Temple, in 1681; the Hon. Robert Boyle, in 1683; and the Great Duke of Marlborough. Later on, Mrs. Oldfield, the eminent actress, Jean-Baptiste Monnoyer, the flower-painter, Lord Bolingbroke, Mrs. Frances Abington, Gibbon, Defoe, and many other distinguished persons lived here.

An Act of Parliament for paving Pall Mall was passed in 1662. Before that date the streets were in a wretched condition; a more unsatisfactory state of affairs it is indeed difficult to imagine.

What is now St. James's Square was then a receptacle for all the rubbish and putrid refuse of the entire parish, and it was not until early in George I.'s reign that the inhabitants, driven to desperation, obtained a Parliamentary authority to enclose the square and plant it with trees.

It is recorded that in 1417, Sir Henry Barton, Mayor of London, ordained "lanterns with "lights to be hanged out in the winter evenings between Hallowtide and Candlemasse," and in 1661 it was directed that the roads, in Westminster, be lighted with lanterns, by every householder or occupier fronting the main road, from nightfall to nine p.m., the hour of retiring to bed. In the last year of Charles II.'s reign, one Edward Heming obtained the right of hanging lanterns on moonless evenings, over every tenth door, from six until midnight, between Michaelmas and Lady-day. During the reign of Queen Anne, in July 1708, Michael Coke introduced globular glass lamps with oil burners, and in 1716 an Act was passed which enjoined every householder to place a lamp before his door from six to eleven o'clock at night; except on evenings between the

* There is another of the residences occupied by Nell Gwynn in Jermyn Street.

seventh night after each new moon, and the third after it reached the full. In a few years a Company was formed to light the streets from six o'clock until midnight; each householder who paid poor rates being required to contribute for this purpose six shillings a year. However, oil served as an illuminant, until a German, Frederic Albert Winzer, afterwards called Winsor, tried gas, in January 1807, as an experiment, on one side of Pall Mall, and in front of the colonnade of CARLTON HOUSE, the town residence of the Prince of Wales. It stood on the site of the present Waterloo Place, viz. : between the ATHENÆUM and the UNITED SERVICE CLUB.

CARLTON HOUSE, built originally for Henry Boyle, Lord Carlton, in 1709, possessed qualities of too high an order to permit us to pass over the name of its architect, Henry Holland. This Royal Residence, or "The Prince Regent's Palace," consisted of a centre and projecting wings; the portico, erected in 1790, was six columned, of the Corinthian order, selected from the Temple of Jupiter Stator at Rome, the capitals of which are singular for the intertwining of the inner volutes. The columns were presented by George IV., on the taking down of the house, in 1827, to the Trustees of the National Gallery, and utilised by William Wilkins, R.A., the Architect of the present edifice, for the central building in Trafalgar Square.



The screen which stood in front of the house (shown in this reproduction), was transferred to Kew Gardens, and the fittings were sent to Buckingham Palace. The Royal Gardens—laid out with

all the skill and taste possible within their limits—extended behind the entire range of the present Club-houses and the site now occupied by Carlton Terrace, looking southwards into the Park. Here a grand Fête, where some Neapolitan ballad singers appeared, was given by the Prince of Wales, on the 18th of May, 1784. And here on the 8th of February, 1790, took place the first levée.

In this reduced print by Thomas Bowles, born about 1712, we have a perspective view of Pall Mall as it appeared in 1741; and also of St. James's Palace.



A View of St. James's Palace Pall Mall, &c.

Vue du Palais royal de St. Jacques Pall Mall, &c.

It has been said that a foreigner who had seen Greenwich, probably in his passage to London by water, and who afterwards was shown the royal residence at St. James's, exclaimed, "The English are a strange people! their hospitals are palaces, and their palaces are hospitals!" This remark had more literal truth in it than the witty speaker probably imagined. The Palace stands on the site of an hospital dedicated to St. James, which was originally founded by certain pious citizens of London, before the Conquest, for fourteen women afflicted with the leprosy, who were appointed to live in a state of celibacy and devotion; but being enriched by an accession of charitable donations, it was very much enlarged; and eight brethren were added, to administer Divine service. A

manuscript, in the British Museum, mentions it as an establishment which, at so early a period as the year 1100, had long been devoted to the purposes of charity and religion. It was rebuilt by Henry III. ; and it appears that Henry VI., in the twenty-eighth year of his reign, granted the custody of this hospital to his new, pious and royal establishment of Eton College. In the year 1532 Henry VIII. took a fancy to the spot ; but did not, although the charitable building was a religious foundation, seize on it in his usual reckless manner. On the contrary, he gave Chattisham, and other lands in Suffolk, in exchange for it ; and, before he turned the patients out of doors, settled pensions upon them. Holbein is said to have furnished the plan of the Palace, but there is some reason to believe that it was originally built for the reception of Anne Boleyn, inasmuch as in the chimney-piece of the Presence Chamber may be seen, among certain Tudor badges, the initials H.A., united in a knot. In the reign of James the First, the Royal Manor House was granted to Prince Henry, who occupied it for the two years antecedent to his premature death in 1612. His brother, afterwards Charles I., maintained a constant fondness for the Mansion and enriched it with many valuable works of Art, which, soon after his execution, were sold by Act of Parliament ; a Parliamentary Commission having been appointed in March, 1648, to make an inventory of the goods and personal estates of the King and Queen, and appraise them for the use of the public. The sale of precious pictures, jewels, &c., not only here, but at Windsor, Hampton Court, Whitehall, and other Royal residences, lasted over three years, viz., 1650 to August 9th, 1653, and realised £118,080 10s. 2d. Among the chief purchasers was Philip IV. of Spain, who bought largely through the agency of his Ambassador, Don Alonzo de Cardenas. But interesting as this may be, other important matters claim a share of our attention, and the reader who is curious in such matters, will be able to satisfy himself by referring to the original manuscript folio volume, or inventory, composed of 689 pages, preserved in the Department of MSS., Harl : 4898, British Museum.

To return from this digression to St. James's Palace.

The Palace of Whitehall having been burnt soon after the accession of William III., St. James's became the town residence of the Monarch, and continued to be so under the reigns of Anne, George I. and George II. A great portion of this ancient edifice was burnt to the ground in January, 1809. Since then, this Palace has undergone very extensive repairs.

The portion of the building nearest the spectator, in this reproduction, is part of the wall and window of the Chapel Royal, wherein Her Majesty Queen Victoria was married. The Gate House is one of the few remains of Holbein's design ; for many years it stood quite in the country ; at length arose several buildings in a line extending northwards, and then St. James's Street was founded. Private residences were also constructed along the north side of Pall Mall ; and, about 1650, Jermyn, Earl of St. Albans, obtained a grant of ground between Pall Mall and Piccadilly, on which he built finer houses in St. James's Square, and also in some of the adjoining streets, as shown in this plan, engraved by one Richard Blome, in the year 1689.

street has more than once been eulogized in verse. Here are some lines, written in Gay's *Trivia*:

"O bear me to the paths of fair *Pall-mall*,
Safe are thy pavements, grateful is thy smell !
At distance rolls along the gilded coach,
Nor sturdy carmen on thy walks encroach ;
No lets would bar thy ways were chairs deny'd,
The soft supports of laziness and pride ;
Shops breathe perfumes, thro' sashes ribbons glow,
The mutual arms of ladies, and the beau."

To pass from pleasant to gloomy recollections, it was in a back room of an hôtel known as the "Star and Garter," in Pall Mall, that the fatal encounter took place, January 26th, 1765, between William Lord Byron and his friend William Chaworth after a slight altercation, which arose as to the most convenient method of preserving game. The quarrel originated at a dinner of the Nottinghamshire Club, held there. They fought with swords, and by the dim light of a single candle. No one was in the room with them. Chaworth fell almost at the first pass. Lord Byron was tried for murder before the House of Lords, but was acquitted on the 17th of April, 1765.



Of the various private residences in Pall Mall, at the commencement of the century, the most interesting was No. 100. It belonged to John Julius Angerstein, who was at Lloyd's for over fifty years, and retired into private life in 1811. He formed a small but select collection of pictures by old Masters, including "The Resurrection of Lazarus," painted at Rome, in 1517-19, by Sebastiano del Piombo, the rival, friend and contemporary of Raphael, whose celebrated picture of "The Transfiguration," in the Vatican, is supposed to have been the operating cause of the production of this mighty effort of Sebastiano, undertaken, under the supervision of Michel' Angelo,

to emulate the lofty character which Raphael had by that work obtained. At Angerstein's death on the 22nd of January, 1823, the pictures became the property of the nation; thus affording an opportunity for the formation of a National Gallery, or at least for the extension of national patronage to the Fine Arts. For this act alone, the administration of Lord Liverpool is entitled to the gratitude of every Englishman. The propositions of His Majesty's Ministers were promptly adopted by Parliament, on the 2nd of April, 1824, and a grant of £60,000 awarded for the purpose of initiating the undertaking. The gentlemen who were most instrumental in determining the minister to this step were Lord Aberdeen, Lord Farnborough, Mr. Alexander Baring (afterwards Lord Ashburton), Lord Dover, Lord Wharnccliffe, and Mr. William Smith, of Norwich; but amongst the most influential and enthusiastic advocates of the measure were Sir George Beaumont, Galley Knight, and Sir Thomas Lawrence, then President of the Royal Academy. The purchase of the Angerstein pictures was then made, at the precise cost of £57,000, and £3,000 for the expenses of the establishment. The management of the National Gallery was entrusted, in the first instance, to the Marquis of Stafford, the Earl of Ripon, Lord Farnborough, Sir George Beaumont and to Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A., whose deep interest in this acquisition, and earnestness in carrying forward this important national object, call for the gratitude of all lovers of art. It is right, however, to state that between the years 1804 and 1823, the idea of forming a National Gallery of Art had several times been suggested to the Government, but in vain. Sir Francis Bourgeois, who in 1811 left his fine collection to Dulwich College, wished to have appropriated it to the nation at large, provided a suitable building were prepared to receive it. The offer was not accepted.

The Gallery was thrown open to the public May 10th, 1824, at No. 100, Pall Mall. The pictures were placed in the edifice they now occupy in 1838, and it was opened to the public on the 9th of April in that year. About the year 1825 the neighbourhood began to improve wonderfully in appearance. The squalid alley, running northward, at the west side of the Opera House, was pulled down, and replaced by a colonnade. The wide opening into Regent Street, on the north, and the expansive area on the south, with the Duke of York's column, erected in 1833-1834, at a cost of £36,000, added grandeur to the locality. The column consists of a plain circular shaft of Aberdeen granite, about 120 feet high, from the designs of B. Wyatt. The statue is by Sir Richard Westmacott, R.A. Such is the brief sketch of a site which, at this present day, is famous for its palatial buildings.

The year 1832 will ever be memorable in English history for the commencement of that series of Reform measures, of which we have probably not yet seen the end. But the epoch is also remarkable in the annals of the Fine Arts, as having witnessed what may be called a renaissance of architecture in London. In a single decade, extending from 1832 to 1842, the greater number of the magnificent edifices on the south side of Pall Mall were erected, presenting an almost uninterrupted line of temples dedicated to social intercourse and the interchange of ideas.

The Clubs, architecturally, and the Club system of London have few, if any, parallels in Europe.

A foreign writer has, perhaps with some degree of truth, remarked that the English, with the reputation of being the most taciturn of nations, are really, if not the most conversational, certainly the most talkative people in existence, and he adds that while they have the character of being saturnine and gloomy, they are notably facetious.

The Viscountess de Malleville, many years ago, in referring to London Clubs, wrote in the *Courrier de l'Europe*, that these elegant places of resort, in the western part of the Metropolis—selfish in principle, but perfectly adapted to the habits of the nation—offer undeniable advantages to those who have the good fortune to be enrolled in them. The state of the social manners of the country, aided by the climate, gave the first idea of such assemblages; and the spirit of association, which is so inherent in the British character, did the rest. It is only within the precincts of these buildings, where all the requirements of opulent life and all the comforts and luxuries of princely habitations are combined, that the convenience and the manifold advantages produced by such a system of association can adequately be appreciated.

With these brief, but let me hope not unnecessary remarks, I will now address myself to my task, content if I should be able to realize, even in the most moderate degree, the prediction of Horace :—

“ That he who blends instruction with delight,
Wins every reader, nor in vain shall write.”

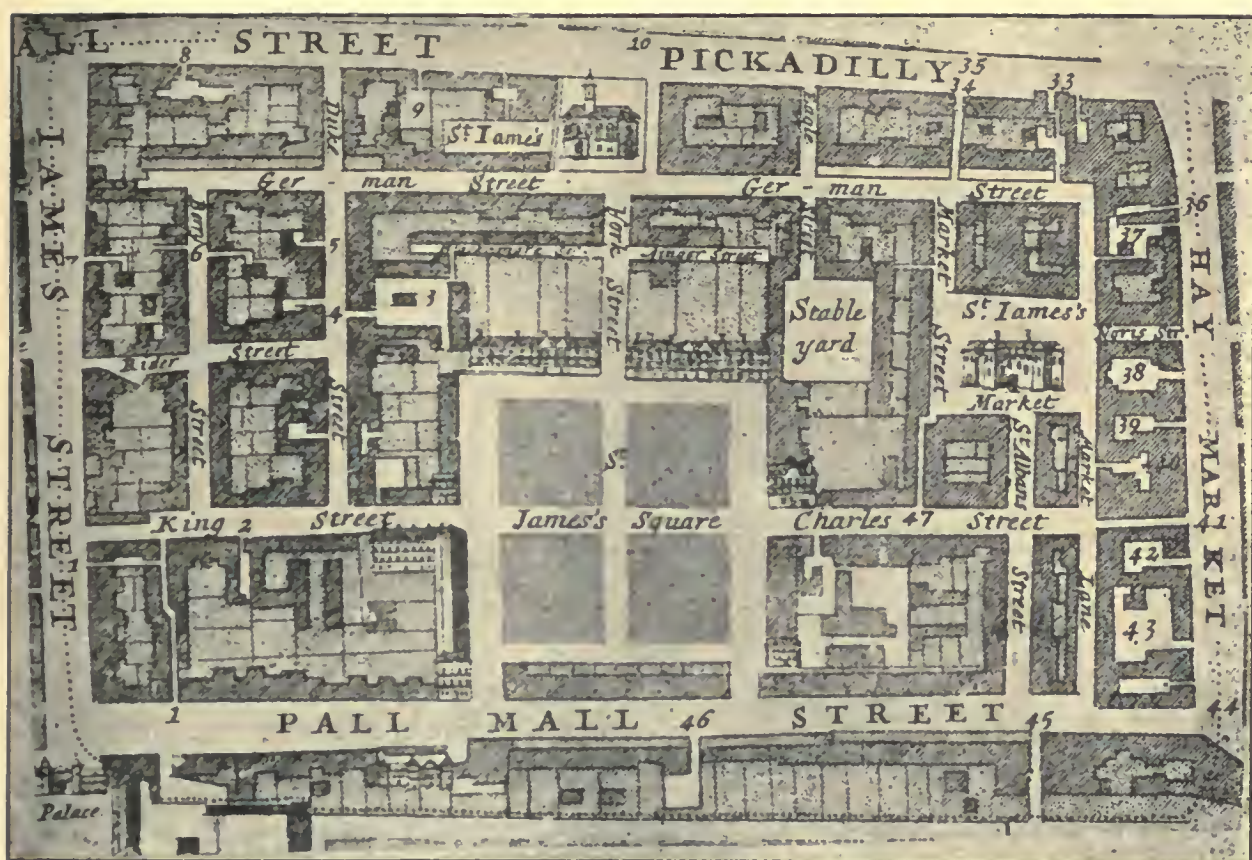


CHAPTER II.

THE motives that induce men to take an interest in politics are various. Some men are led naturally into public life by the accident of high birth and party connections, others are drawn thither by personal ambition ; some by the merely vulgar wish of pushing themselves ; many, it may be hoped, by the honest desire to serve their country. But, however the political spirit may have been kindled, it soon becomes an absorbing passion, and men once possessed by it find their keenest interest and dearest aims in what are roughly styled public affairs. Of this political spirit the Club is the natural and appropriate home ; it supplies the sociable element, and cultivates the amenities as well as the material conveniences of public life. Some observations as to the rise and growth of these political and social institutions will not be irrelevant.

In the middle of the last century the word "Club" implied a select number of persons who met regularly, every evening, or weekly, to converse, drink and smoke. According to Carlyle ("History of Frederick II., the Great") the word *Club* is formed from *Gelübde*, signifying the vow of an Order, and the word has "passed over to us in a singularly dwindled condition." Dr. Johnson, following Skinner, derives it from the Anglo-Saxon word *cleofan*, *to cleave*, from the division of the reckoning—and defines it to be "an assembly of persons meeting under certain conditions for a common purpose," but Todd, "as an association of persons subjected to particular rules."

The first two London Clubs established, as we now know them, were WHITE'S and BROOKS'S. The former, in the days of Hogarth, went by the name of WHITE'S CHOCOLATE HOUSE ; and about the year 1777, became for sometime the head quarters of the Tory party. This Club now occupies the site of the town residence of Elizabeth, Countess of Northumberland, who, according to Horace Walpole, was the last lady who kept up the ceremonious state of the old peerage. WHITE'S originally stood at the bottom of St. James's Street, on the eastern side, opposite to what is now the CONSERVATIVE CLUB. The present house was built by James Wyatt. The proprietorship passed from Mackreth to Martindale ; and in 1812, to Raggett, who made considerable additions and improvements. In the summer of 1814, the members gave a ball, in honour of the allied Sovereigns ; and, a little later, a dinner to the Duke of Wellington.



Six years later, September 9th, 1695, some grand fireworks took place in the centre of the Square, to celebrate the joyful occasion of His Majesty's glorious success in the taking of Namur. There now stands the equestrian statue of King William III., by John Bacon.

St. James's Park was originally no more than a small field attached to the Hospital of St. James for Lepers. On May 8th, 1539, we read that the citizens of London, "all in bright harneis, with coates of white silke or cloth, and cheines of golde, in three great battailes, (the number was 15,000, beside wiffers and other awayters,) in goodly order, passed through London to Westminster, and through the Sanctuary, and rounde aboute the Parke of St. James, and returned home through Holborne." Until King Henry VIII. resided in Whitehall, it was a morass. An annual fair which used to be kept here was deferred for eight days at the coronation of King James I., to "prevent all occasions of dispersing infection among the people."

Charles II. added thirty-six acres to the adjoining pleasure-grounds, carried the wall back further towards Pall Mall, and laid out the whole, and caused it to be planted by the French gardener Le Notre. It was in this reign that St. James's became the fashionable lounge, in the place of Paul's walk, still frequented, however, between the hours of nine and eleven. Pepys says, in 1660, that he went to "walk in the inward Park, but could not get in; one man was basted by the keeper for carrying some people over on his back through the water." In the two following years a formal canal (2,800 feet in length and 100 feet broad), running from the Parade to Buckingham

House, was made. It seems to have consisted of large plots of grass or lawn, intersected by paths planted with elms and lime trees. On the south-east of the canal was a decoy, with a triangular network of small rivulets, where the water-fowls were kept. This part was called Duck Island (destroyed in 1770). On the south-west side, connected with the canal by a sluice, was Rosamond's Pond, of an oblong shape. In 1828, the straight Dutch canal was transformed, by Nash, into a pretty ornamental lake.

The CLUBS in Pall Mall have always been celebrated; of these, I shall have to speak further on, but quite two hundred years ago the street was also noted for its *tavern clubs*. Among these "clubs" was *Wood's*, mentioned by Pepys, July 26th, 1660. In July 5th, 1665, he wrote: "From thence walked round to White Hall, the Parke being quite locked up, and I observed a house shut up this day in the Pell Mell, where heretofore, in Cromwell's time, we young men used to keep our weekly Club." In Spence's *Anecdotes* we read: "There was a club held at the King's Head, in Pall Mall, that arrogantly called itself the 'World.'"

Among the most famous *Subscription Coffee-houses* of that period were TOM's and WILL's, both in the neighbourhood of the theatres. Of these favoured resorts of the bright spirits who were leaders of wit and fashion in that vanished world, we meet with the following curious notice in Mackay's "Journey through England," vol. 1., p. 10., published in 1714. This amusing chronicler of the manners of the last century was "lodged in the street called Pall-mall, the ordinary Residence of all Strangers, because of its vicinity to the Queen's Palace, the Park, the Parliament-House, the Theatres, and the Chocolate and Coffee-Houses, where the best company frequents. . . . After the plays, the best company generally go to Tom's and Will's Coffee-Houses, near adjoining, where there is playing at Picket, and the best of conversation, till midnight. Here you will see blue and green ribbons and stars, sitting familiarly, and talking with the same freedom, as if they had left their quality and degrees of distance at home; and a stranger tastes with pleasure the universal liberty of speech of the English nation. Or if you like rather the company of ladies, there are assemblies at most People of Qualities Houses. And in all the Coffee-Houses you have not only the Foreign Prints, but several English ones with the Foreign Occurrences, besides Papers of Morality and Party-disputes."

TOM's coffee-house was situated on the north side of Great Russell Street, Covent Garden. The house, No. 17, was occupied, about 1840, by William Till, the well-known dealer in coins and antiquities, who had in his room some of the old furniture, belonging to TOM's.

The first modern Club Mansion in Pall Mall was No. 86, which was opened as a Subscription House, called the "Albion Hotel." It had been originally built for Edward Duke of York, brother to George III., who resided there in 1799.

Pall Mall has preserved its gentility longer than any other place in London.

In the *Tatler* (No. IX.), April 30th, 1709, Sir Richard Steele says:—"At noon the fine ladies and great beaux are just yawning out of their beds and windows in Pall Mall." This

BROOKS's, or rather ALMACK's, as it was originally called, was started in Pall Mall, where the MARLBOROUGH CLUB now stands, by twenty noblemen, in the year 1764. Its origin was the black-balling of Messrs. Boothby and James, at WHITE's. One of its rules was that "any member of this Society, who shall become a candidate for any other Club (White's excepted) shall be *ipso facto* excluded, and his name struck out of the book."



The concern was taken off Almack's hands, some years later, by a certain money-lender and wine merchant called Brooks; under whose name a Club, occupying a house in St. James's Street, as seen on the right of this cut, designed by Henry Holland, was opened to its members in October, 1778. That it was not flourishing in the early part of its career appears from a letter written by Hare to Selwyn in 1779. He wrote "we are all beggars at Brooks's, and he threatens "to leave the house, as it yields no profit." The proprietor is thus described by Tickell:—

"And know I've brought the best champagne from Brooks'
From liberal Brooks, whose speculative skill
Is lasting credit and a distant bill,
Who, versed in Clubs, disdains a vulgar trade,
Exults to trust, and blushes to be paid."

THIS SUBSCRIPTION HOUSE, was from its commencement avowedly a political Club, and was under the influence of Charles James Fox. Among the etchings of an amateur artist, Lavinia, Countess Spencer, there is a plate entitled "Returning from Brooks's," which was published April 13th, 1784. One of the figures represents the Prince of Wales, during the memorable election for Westminster, so pertinaciously contested by Fox and Cecil Wray. The Whig Committee met at Brooks's, where the British Demosthenes, the Prince, and the Party, offered copious libations to the jolly god. The illustrious friend is seen with the election favour in his cocked hat, supported by the "man of the people," and the patriot Sam House. This eccentric individual kept a public-house in Wardour Street; where Fox's Parish Committees were held during the election. Sam House never wore hat or wig; and rarely even a night-cap. He constantly appeared in a nankeen jacket and breeches, brightly polished shoes and buckles. His legs were generally bare. During the elections he kept open house at his own expense; and was always honoured with a cordial shake of the hand from all the Whig Dukes and Lords in the land.

While at ALMACK's, the members of Brooks's were noted for their betting propensities. A regular book was kept of the wagers made, as well as of sums won or lost at play; and these were carried to the accounts of the respective parties, with all the forms of mercantile precision. Here are a few extracts from this interesting record, that illustrate the habits and tone of many conspicuous ornaments in the political world of the last century:—

"March 11th, 1774. Lord Clermont has given Mr. Crawford ten guineas, upon the condition of receiving £500 from him whenever Mr. Charles Fox shall be worth £100,000 clear of debts."

"June 4th, 1774. Lord Northington bets Mr. C. Fox that he (Mr. C. F.) is not called to the bar before this day four years."

"March 11th, 1775. Lord Bolingbroke gives a guinea to Mr. Charles Fox, and is to receive a thousand from him whenever the debt of this country amounts to 171 millions. Mr. Fox is not to pay the £1,000 till he is one of His Majesty's Cabinet."

"April 7th, 1792. Mr. Sheridan bets Lord Lauderdale and Lord Thanet, twenty-five guineas each, that Parliament will not consent to any more lotteries after the present one, voted to be drawn in February next."

In 1829, Thomas Moore was elected a member of Brooks's; and Lord Essex immediately wrote him a letter of congratulation. All the notice the poet himself took of the distinction is to be found in an entry under the date June 14th; "Went to Brooks's to pay twenty-one guineas—a costly honour."

The present century opened with that important national measure the Union with Ireland. Much political excitement was naturally aroused, and one result of the measure was the establishment of the UNION CLUB, which held its meetings in Cumberland House, Pall Mall. This Club was for a short time exceedingly fashionable; and its festivities were proportionally

celebrated. The midnight orgies of such an assemblage of peerless peers, and others—mostly eight-bottle and six-bottle men—made a great noise in the neighbourhood of the Palace. It was the boast of every man of the least pretension to being *fashionable* that he was a member of the UNION CLUB.

In making the tour of Pall Mall, from west to east, on the south side we come first to MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, the residence of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales; built in 1709-10 by Sir Christopher Wren, for John, Duke of Marlborough. It occupies the site of the old pheasantry of St. James's Palace. Next door is the BEACONSFIELD CLUB, where formerly stood the residence of Charles Abbot, afterwards Lord Colchester. A few doors on is the GUARDS' CLUB, designed by Henry Harrison, in 1850. This Club was established in 1813, and housed in St. James's Street, attached to CROCKFORD'S. We have next the OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE CLUB, designed by Sir Robert Smirke, R.A., and his brother, Sydney Smirke, in 1835. The bas-reliefs on the façade are executed in cement by Nicholl, from drawings supplied by Sir Robert. After the OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE CLUB comes the WAR OFFICE,* once known as Schomberg House, it having been erected for the celebrated Duke of Schomberg, who was killed at the battle of the Boyne, in 1690. In this mansion many well-known personages resided. Amongst others, Dr. James Graham, who there delivered his philosophical lectures; Richard Cosway, R.A., the fashionable miniature painter,—whose accomplished wife, Maria, was accustomed to receive the taste and talent of the day, including the young Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV. Besides these, we have Robert Bowyer, the artist; Thomas Payne, the bookseller; and Thomas Gainsborough, R.A.

Towards the end of the last century the eastern wing of Schomberg House was converted into fashionable millinery rooms by Dyde and Scribe. In an adjoining house was the original establishment of Mr. James Christie, the auctioneer, who died in 1803.

The next residence was designed by Sir John Soane, for George Grenville, Earl Temple, first Marquis of Buckingham. It now forms an additional portion of the War Office. Next in order comes the CARLTON CLUB. The CARLTON was founded under the auspices of the Duke of Wellington and Sir Robert Peel, in 1833, to oppose Parliamentary Reforms; though a preliminary meeting of its future members was held in Charles Street, St. James's, in 1831. In 1834 the Club removed to larger premises, taking Lord Kensington's residence in Carlton Gardens. In 1836, an entirely new house was built in Pall Mall, by Sir Robert Smirke, R.A., and ten years later was greatly enlarged. In 1854 the whole of the original edifice was taken down and reconstructed by Sydney Smirke. The REFORM follows. Adjoining it is the TRAVELLERS', originated by the Marquis of Londonderry, then Lord Castlereagh, soon after the Peace of 1814. It was promoted with a view to the accommodation of foreigners, who, when properly recommended, were to receive an invitation extending over the period of their stay in London. The present much-admired house was designed by Charles Barry, and finished in 1832. Finally we have the ATHENÆUM, designed by

* Partly re-built in 1852.

Decimus Burton, and completed in 1829-1830. The statue of Minerva, above the portico, is the work of E. H. Baily, R.A.

On the north side of Pall Mall are the MARLBOROUGH CLUB, started in 1868; the ARMY AND NAVY CLUB, designed by Messrs. Parnell and Smith, and opened in February, 1851; the JUNIOR CARLTON, established in 1864, lately enlarged and considerably altered; and the WANDERERS'. It should be added that where the MARLBOROUGH CLUB now stands there existed previously the SHAKESPEARE GALLERY, erected by Alderman Boydell in conjunction with his nephew, Josiah Boydell, for the reception of pictures illustrating Shakespeare's plays; these pictures, executed under the patronage of the Boydells, uncle and nephew, served afterwards as subjects for the engravings that embellished their magnificent edition of the works of the immortal bard of Avon. The front of the GALLERY was designed by Nathaniel Dance, R.A., and the bas-relief by Thomas Banks, R.A. In 1805 the Directors of the "British Institution" purchased the lease of the SHAKESPEARE GALLERY for £4,500, and for many years important Exhibitions were held there. Mr. Alderman Boydell had thus achieved an object that endears his memory to all lovers of the Fine Arts, and established for himself an honourable position among British worthies. The art of engraving had not been successfully practised in England until this enlightened trader embarked his property in its promotion. He procured the loan of pictures by the old masters from the collections of the few noblemen and gentlemen who had picture galleries; and employed artists to copy others abroad. To engrave these masterpieces, he secured the services of the very best engravers in their various branches; and in remunerating them had due regard to the skill and careful labour displayed. Having carried out this first enterprise successfully, Boydell commissioned certain among the most prominent English artists to produce compositions from history and other subjects; these pictures he also had engraved by the best native talent. He had the felicity to see before his death a school of engraving established, which could compete with that of any other country. The period, however, was approaching when a new and higher impulse was to be given to the native schools of painting and engraving, by the formation of the SHAKESPEARE GALLERY. The public excitement at its opening, in 1786, exceeded the most sanguine expectations. All the fashionable world flocked to the exhibition in Pall Mall, and subscriptions poured in from every quarter in support of the glorious novelty. Nevertheless, as a speculation the undertaking proved an entire failure, and the venerable proprietor, in his patriotic endeavour to further the arts of his country, made a wreck of his fortune. In 1804 Boydell obtained the sanction of Parliament to dispose of his art property by lottery. The GALLERY fell to the share of one Tassie, modeller, of Leicester Square. It had cost £500,000 in plates for prize prints, and £46,266 in pictures and drawings. The lottery was drawn in 1805.

Before leaving the subject of CLUBS, I may allude to the LITERARY CLUB, founded by Doctor Johnson and Sir Joshua Reynolds, which included, among the earliest members—Boswell, Burke, Goldsmith, and, later on, Fox, Sheridan, Adam Smith, and Sir Walter Scott. Referring to Dr. Johnson and his literary friends, Lord Macaulay observes: "Some of them, in 1764, formed

“ themselves into a Club, which gradually became a formidable power in the Commonwealth “ of Letters.” The last time that Johnson dined at the LITERARY CLUB was in 1784, shortly before his death, one of the company, upon this occasion, being Lord Palmerston, the father of the distinguished statesman. In the year 1864 the centenary of the Club was celebrated by a banquet at the Clarendon Hotel, then in Bond Street. Among the subscribers present was the venerable Lord Brougham.

I have now reached the year 1834, when a Liberal Club known, first under the title of the WESTMINSTER, and afterwards as the WESTMINSTER REFORM CLUB, was founded, having its residence at No. 34, Great George Street,* Westminster.



Here lived Alderman, afterwards Sir Matthew Wood, the father of the Right Honourable William Page Wood, Baron Hatherley. Mr. Wood commenced life as a hop merchant, in partnership with one Wigan, in Falcon Square, and was elected Alderman for the Ward of Cripplegate

* This Street derived its name from the House of Hanover. Here Edward, Lord Thurlowe, resided ; and from it, on September 25, 1806, his remains were removed for interment in the Temple. The site of Great George Street, which was built shortly after the erection of Westminster Bridge, formed an arm of the Thames at that time. The tide flowed from Bridge Street until it found its way into the canal of St. James's Park.

in 1807. Two years later he filled the office of Sheriff at the same time with Alderman Atkins. In that capacity he was called upon to discharge the duty of arresting Sir Francis Burdett, Bart., on a Speaker's warrant. In 1815 he became Lord Mayor, and distinguished himself by quelling the fearful Spa Fields riots, on the 2nd of December, 1816. In this year he was re-elected Mayor. It had been usual for the Mayor, on the occasion of taking the customary oath, to proceed by water from Westminster Hall to London, by way of proving the jurisdiction of the Chief Magistrate of the city over this part of the river. Alderman Wood, however, deviated from this custom, and returned, attended by the Corporation, along Parliament Street, Whitehall, Charing Cross, etc., to Guildhall; whereupon Lord Sidmouth, then High Steward of Westminster, officially protested against the Lord Mayor's conduct "in order that the same course might not be drawn into precedent, and adopted on any future occasion." Yet, in ancient times, the procession to and from Westminster was by land, till, in 1453, Sir John Norman built a sumptuous barge, at his own expense, for the purpose of going by water.

Alderman Wood sat in Parliament as a member for the City until his death. He was opposed to the Corn Laws, and to the Test and Corporation Acts, but earnestly supported Roman Catholic Emancipation, and Parliamentary Reform. It is unnecessary here to enter into the history of Queen Caroline, but Alderman Wood earnestly sympathised with Her Majesty during the trial; and it was mainly on his advice that she rejected, it is said, with indignation the proposition that she should accept £50,000 a year and consent to abandon the title of Queen. Sir Matthew died in September, 1843.

As the precursor of the REFORM CLUB, the WESTMINSTER deserves special notice. A preliminary meeting of its members was held, March 7th, 1834; those present were:—Mr. John Wilks, M.P.,* in the chair; Mr. Wood, M.P., Mr. Rigby Wason, M.P., Mr. Daniel O'Connell, M.P., Mr. D. W. Harvey, M.P., Mr. Tennyson, Mr. Kennedy, Captain John G. Fitzgerald, Mr. John O'Connell, M.P., and Mr. Robert Wallace, M.P.

A second meeting took place three days later, when it was resolved that all payments be made to the credit of Mr. Wood, Mr. Joshua Scholefield, M.P., Mr. Rigby Wason, and Mr. John Wilks.

Mr. H. P. Fry, the Secretary, issued the following letter:—

" March 10th, 1834.

" SIR,—I am directed by the Provisional Committee of the Westminster Club, to inform you
 " that the arrangements for the Establishment have been completed, and that this House will be
 " opened for the reception of the Members on Monday, April 7th; and I am further to request
 " that you pay, on or before the 20th inst., ten guineas, being the entrance money, and five
 " guineas, the annual subscription for the ensuing year, terminating on the first day of the Easter
 " Holydays, 1835, at Messrs. Drummond, Charing Cross, to the credit of Alderman Wood, M.P.;

* He died February 4th, 1857, aged 70.

“ Joshua Scholefield, M.P. ; Rigby Wason, M.P. ; and John Wilks, M.P., as otherwise you
 “ cannot be considered an original Subscriber. I have also to inform you that the first General
 “ Meeting of the Club will be held on the 21st instant, for the purpose of appointing the
 “ Committee and other officers for the ensuing year.

“ I have, &c.,

“ H. P. FRY.”

At the General Meeting a Resolution was passed to the effect “that the house of Mr.
 “ Alderman Wood, No. 24, be taken on the following terms. Alderman Wood agreeing to let to
 “ the Committee the entire basement, the general floor throughout, and first floor in the house
 “ with fixtures and furniture therein, from April 15th, 1834, to April 15th, 1836, at or for the
 “ annual rent of 650 guineas. And, in consideration of the annual rent of 650 guineas, to supply
 “ all the requisite fittings-up in the dining rooms, kitchen utensils, plate, linen and glass,
 “ sufficient for the comfort and accommodation of one hundred members. And, for the further
 “ consideration of 350 guineas, Alderman Wood engages to hire, maintain (and, so far as regards
 “ the men servants, clothes) the necessary servants to superintend and conduct the Club. Such
 “ servants to be under the absolute control of the Committee.”

Towards the end of March, a Committee, composed chiefly of Members of Parliament, was
 formed ; among the founders of the CLUB was Henry Lytton Bulwer. On the 26th of the same
 month the Secretary announced in the newspapers that “the arrangements having been completed,
 “ on April 14th a dinner will be prepared at seven o'clock, at which the Committee will be happy
 “ to see such Members as may find it convenient to attend, and that Members should have the
 “ privilege of inviting friends to dinner until the number of Subscribers shall have amounted
 “ to two hundred.”

Two days later the Rules and Regulations were read, and it was resolved :—“that Rule 2 be
 “ adopted after the commencement of the Ballot, but that the number of Members to constitute a
 “ Ballot be changed from forty to twenty, and that one black ball in five be sufficient to exclude.”

The following advertisement was then published :—

“ Westminster Club, April 3rd, 1834.

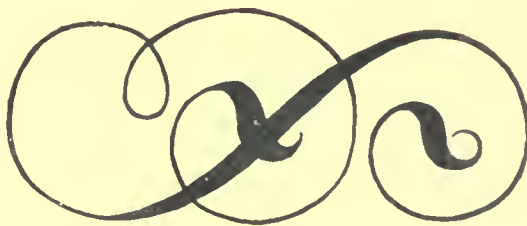
“ The Secretary will attend at the Club House, 24, Great George Street, from
 “ 12 to 3 each day till the 14th, to receive all future communications for admission to
 “ the Club.”

Accordingly the CLUB was opened on April 7th, 1834, and Messrs. Boustead and Benson,
 of 20, Parliament Street, were appointed to supply *The Times*, *Morning Chronicle*, *Herald*, and *Post*,
 the first at 6½d. per diem, the other three to be returned the morning after publication and
 to be paid for at the rate of 4d. per diem ; and that they also supply five evening papers, to be
 taken the ensuing day, and to be paid for at the same rate of 4d. each, viz. :—*The Globe*, *Courier*,

Standard, *True Sun*, and *Sun*: and also six weekly papers, to be paid for at the rate of 2d. each, with the exception of the *Spectator*, for which 3d. is to be paid; all to be taken away on Monday morning. The weekly papers were—*The John Bull*, *Age*, *Examiner*, *Spectator*, *Observer*, and *Satirist*.

The form sent to unsuccessful Candidates was couched in the following terms:—"SIR, I beg leave to acquaint you, your proposal to become a Member of the Westminster Club has not been accepted by the Committee. I am, &c., &c."

The CLUB having now been fairly launched, it was ordered, on May 6th, "That a seal be provided by the Secretary with the Westminster Arms, surrounded by the words WESTMINSTER CLUB."



CHAPTER III.

THE WESTMINSTER CLUB had not been three months in existence before its members gave signs of political activity. On the 27th of May, 1834, Earl Grey's Cabinet was broken up, by the sudden resignation of the Duke of Richmond, Postmaster-General ; the Earl of Ripon, Privy Seal ; Mr. Stanley, Colonial Secretary ; and Sir James Graham, First Lord of the Admiralty.

The immediate cause of their resignation arose from differences of opinion concerning the mode of dealing with the property of the Irish Church.

Though a small party in the country advocated the disestablishment of the Protestant Church in Ireland, this measure found no favour with any responsible statesman, still less with the members of Lord Grey's Cabinet. However, as a sort of compromise, Mr. Ward, member for St. Albans, moved a resolution in the lower House, which was seconded by Mr. Grote, the historian of Greece, to the effect "that the Protestant Episcopal Establishment in Ireland exceeds "the spiritual wants of the Protestant population ; and that, it being the right of the State to "regulate the distribution of Church property in such manner as Parliament may determine, it is "the opinion of this House, that the temporal possessions of the Church of Ireland, as now "established by law, ought to be reduced."

The anomalous position of the Irish Church was unquestionable ; but since Mr. Ward's resolution maintained the right of the State to deal with ecclesiastical property as it thought fit, it met with strong opposition from both sides of the House. The members of the Cabinet were divided in opinion, and Lord Althorp, the leader of the House of Commons, moved the adjournment of the debate. In the interval, the above-named ministers resigned, and were replaced by the Marquis of Conyngham, who became Postmaster-General ; the Earl of Carlisle, who took the Privy Seal ; Lord Auckland, who became First Lord of the Admiralty, and Mr. Spring Rice, who accepted the office of Colonial Secretary.

It was in this emergency that the following laconic letter was sent by Mr. Stanley to Sir James Graham on the night that Lord John Russell had avowed the split in the Cabinet :—

"My dear G. Johnny has upset the Coach. Yours, &c."

The event attracted the notice of "H. B.," who gave the position in a caricature entitled "The Upsetting of the Reform Coach."



Mr. Stanley and Sir James Graham are represented as having saved themselves by jumping off. Lord Ripon has been thrown on his back, while the Duke of Richmond is lifting up his head. Mr. Stanley is on his legs, and is saying to Sir James Graham, who has alighted on his seat "Well, I think we did right to jump off, although we may have got a little hurt or so: I told you Johnny would upset the Coach." Lord Brougham, as the guard, is seated behind, smoking a cigar and in the act of recommending Lord Melbourne, who is about to slide off, to sit fast, and saying, "Sit fast, M—lb—ne, these fellows would have done much better to have kept their places; I think one ought always to keep *one's place* as long as one can." The King, an inside passenger, is looking out of the window, calling "Help! Help!"

On the 30th of May the Committee of the WESTMINSTER CLUB resolved:—"That a Meeting of the Members of this Club be held at the Club House, on Saturday the 31st instant,

“ at 3½ o'clock p.m., and that the Secretary issue a circular for that purpose. That the following address be submitted for signatures to the Meeting to be held on the 31st instant :—

“ *To the Right Honourable The Earl Grey*,—“ We, the undersigned Representatives of the People, understanding that your Lordship has received from His Majesty the full and responsible power of reforming the Ministry, do in the present imminent political crisis of public affairs, respectfully represent to your Lordship the deep importance of a Liberal, firm and comprehensive Administration, and the certainty that such an Administration alone can secure that public confidence and popular strength which are essential to the maintenance of good Government. That such an Administration, so desirable at the present moment, cannot, as we respectfully suggest, be formed, should any private or personal feeling exclude any individual whose sincere attachment to the principles of Reform has emphatically obtained the confidence and respect of the people.”

Another letter relating to the same political event was also addressed to Earl Grey, by the Members of BROOKS'S :—

“ June 7th, 1834.

“ MY LORD,—We have heard with deep concern that the changes which have taken place in the Administration might possibly lead your Lordship to contemplate retirement from office.

“ Impressed with the firmest conviction that the country is indebted to you for the success of measures the most essential to the public welfare, and assured that your resignation at this crisis would produce consequences most injurious to the peace and prosperity of the community, we venture to express to your Lordship our undiminished confidence in the wisdom with which you have held the reins of Government, and our unshaken attachment to those principles which you have so efficiently and consistently maintained. We desire, therefore, to convey to you our anxious hope that you will not be induced to retire from His Majesty's Councils whilst you can continue to preside over them, as you have hitherto done, with so much honour to yourself, and so much benefit to the country.”

The following was Earl Grey's answer :—

“ 31st May, 1834.

“ DEAR LORD EBRINGTON,—I received yesterday evening your very kind note, accompanying the letter, which had been written under the impression that I had determined to retire from the situation which I now hold.

“ Whether I regard the expressions contained in the letter itself, or the number and respectability of the signatures, I cannot help feeling this to be one of the most gratifying testimonials of confidence and good opinion ever received by any public man.

“ It imposes on me the duty of making every personal sacrifice that can be required of me, and which can be useful for the support of the principles on which the present Administration was formed. But I will not conceal from you, that declining strength makes it extremely doubtful whether I shall be found equal to the task which is thus imposed upon me.

“ If my endeavours to supply the place of those of whose services the country has been so
 “ unfortunately deprived prove successful, it is only by the support of honourable and independent
 “ men, in conducting the Government on safe and moderate principles, that I can hope to get
 “ through the difficulties which are before me.

“ Founded on the principles of Reform, the present Administration must necessarily look to
 “ the correction of all proved abuses. But in pursuing a course of salutary improvements, I feel
 “ it indispensable that we shall be allowed to proceed with deliberation and caution ; and, above
 “ all, that we should not be urged, by a constant and active pressure from without, to the adoption
 “ of any measures, the necessity of which has not been fully proved, and which are not strictly
 “ regulated by a careful attention to the settled institutions of the country, both in Church and
 “ State.

“ On no other principle can this or any other Administration be conducted with advantage
 “ or safety. “ I am, &c., GREY.”

At page 51 of the Minute Book, under date of July 2nd, 1834, appears the following :—
 “ Resolved that Mr. Disraeli, proposed by Mr. Bulwer (afterwards Lord Dalling and Bulwer) and
 “ seconded by Dr. Elmore,* should be elected a member of the Club.”



* John R. Elmore, M.D., died August 26th, 1860.

On July 25th the Secretary stated "that having, in obedience to a resolution of the Committee at last meeting, written to those Members who had not paid their subscriptions, he had to report that the subscriptions of the following Members remain still unpaid,"—and one of the defaulters was Mr. Disraeli. However, on the 3rd of December, 1834, the motion was carried :—"That Lord Dunboyne, Mr. Disraeli, and Mr. Henry Lytton Bulwer be written to, informing them that the Committee have observed by the Banker's book that their subscriptions have not been paid, and that the Secretary is to apprise them thereof."

In consequence of this, the anticipations of the Committee were soon verified, for Mr. Disraeli wrote first in the month of February, 1835, "requiring information respecting the Club," and then to the Secretary as follows :—

" February 8th, 1835.

" SIR,—I enclose you a draft for the sum you require, and as my engagements have not permitted me to avail myself of the ' Westminster Club ' I shall feel obliged by your doing me the favour of withdrawing my name from the list of the Members of the Society.

" I am, Sir, yours, &c., &c.,

" B. D'ISRAELI."

This letter having been submitted to the Committee, on March 14th, 1835 (the Members present being Mr. John Wilks, Mr. D. W. Harvey, Mr. John Robertson, Mr. O'Meara, Mr. Alderman Wood, Dr. Elmore, and Sir Robert Sydney), an entry to this effect was made :—

" The Secretary reported his having waited in person on those Members of the Club whose subscriptions are still unpaid, and his having in consequence received from Mr. Disraeli a letter enclosing a cheque for £15 15s. and requesting that his name be erased from the list of the Members of the Club, as he is prevented by his engagements from availing himself of its conveniences."

" Resolved :—That the cheque sent by Mr. Disraeli be returned to him, and he be informed that the Committee declines its acceptance, having no inclination to accept money from gentlemen whose engagements render them unable to avail themselves of the conveniences of the Club."

Thus ended the late Lord Beaconsfield's connection with a Liberal Club.

On the formation of a new Government by Lord Melbourne, in the month of April, 1835, Mr. Henry Labouchere, on taking the office of Vice-President of the Board of Trade and Master of the Mint, made the usual appeal for re-election to his constituents at Taunton, and found that he was opposed by no other than Mr. Benjamin Disraeli. In the *Taunton Courier* of Wednesday, April 22nd, 1835, at page 7, there is the following article :—

" H. Labouchere, Esq., one of the Representatives in Parliament for this borough, having accepted the office of Master of the Mint and Vice-President of the Board of Trade, thereby

“ vacated his seat, and on Tuesday morning last, presented himself in this town, to solicit his
 “ re-election. The Honorable Gentleman, from the window of his apartments at Mr. Horsey’s,
 “ in Fore Street, addressed the electors assembled, and in a ‘ plain, unvarnished tale,’ informed
 “ them of the occasion of his visit. In his address, which was equally brief and sensible, Mr. L.
 “ requested, as a personal favour, that if anyone in the course of his canvass would apprise him of
 “ any exceptionable or equivocal instances in his public conduct, he hoped that the present
 “ opportunity would not be neglected for that purpose, it being on the one hand the duty
 “ of a representative to explain his conduct, and the right of an elector to require such explanation
 “ if he considered it necessary. The Hon. Gentleman immediately proceeded on his canvass,—a
 “ ceremony which, though, constitutionally necessary, is perfectly superfluous in the present case;
 “ among no constituency in England, there being so strong and implicit a sentiment of cordial
 “ respect as that between the electors of Taunton and the very estimable gentleman who is now,
 “ for the *fifth* time, soliciting their confidence.

“ Since the above was in type, we learn that Mr. D’Israeli, Jun., a gentleman of literary
 “ renown, arrived late last night at the Castle, for the purpose of offering himself to the electors
 “ in the Conservative interest. Mr. D’Israeli addressed the persons assembled, who were
 “ subsequently exhorted by N. Lee, Esq., and Mr. J. E. White, to support the new candidate.
 “ A canvass was then announced to begin this morning (Wednesday) at nine o’clock, and was
 “ proceeding when we went to press. Mr. D’Israeli was an unsuccessful candidate at High
 “ Wycombe, at the last election, and not more fortunate on a former occasion at Marylebone.
 “ His father resides in Buckinghamshire, and is the author of the well-known work, the
 “ ‘ Curiosities of Literature.’ Mr. D’Israeli, Jun., is the author of the popular novel ‘ Vyvian,’
 “ and enjoys the honour of the confidence of the Conservative Club in London, to which body
 “ of gentlemen this borough is indebted for his visit on the present occasion.”

Three days later, April 25th, the *Morning Chronicle* published this letter :—

“ MR. D’ISRAELI, Jun., at Taunton.

“ SIR,—In your journal of to-day, it is stated, on the authority of *The Taunton Courier*, that
 “ Mr. D’Israeli, the younger, had been sent to that borough by the Conservative Club, to oppose
 “ the re-election of Mr. Labouchere. This statement (so far, at least, as the Conservative Club is
 “ concerned), must, I think, be a gross mistake, seeing that Mr. D’Israeli professes to be a Liberal,
 “ and, in proof thereof, is actually a member of the Westminster Reform Club, established last year
 “ in Great George Street, Westminster, by Messrs. Tennyson, Hume, and others of the Liberal
 “ Party. Nay, more, he, upon a late occasion proposed to offer himself as a candidate for
 “ Mary-la-bonne ; and on being told that his principles were considered as somewhat doubtful, he
 “ put forth a pamphlet entitled, ‘ What is He ? ’ in which he recommends triennial Parliaments,
 “ election by ballot, and that the Tories should coalesce with the Radicals. I refer you to the

“pamphlet itself, rather than to extracts ; and although it is as ambiguously worded as the
 “most dextrous *trimmer* could wish, yet, coupling the above extracts with the fact of its having
 “been written expressly with the view to recommend the writer to the favourable notice of
 “the electors of Mary-la-bonne, it can hardly be believed that its author is now under the especial
 “patronage of the Conservative Club.

“AN ELECTOR OF WESTMINSTER.”

Full details of this highly interesting election will be found in the *Dorset County Chronicle and Somersetshire Gazette*, of Thursday, April 30th, 1835. The contest was a sharp one ; and telling speeches were delivered by Mr. G. Cox, Dr. Blake, Mr. Blatch Cox, Mr. Newton Lee, as well as by the two combatants, Mr. Labouchere and Mr. Disraeli. The future leader of the Tory party is reported to have spoken on that occasion as follows :—

“In referring to the observation that he had been sent down by the Conservative Club, well
 “armed with the sinews of war, ammunition for battle, he said : Permit me to say I have
 “fought the battle of the people four times, and if I have been sent down by the Conservative
 “Club this time, I shall come by a requisition of the electors of Taunton the next. (Cheers.) I
 “have always fought the battle of the people from my own resources, and am not indebted to any
 “other person for a single farthing, and I will fight again upon my own resources, and neither that
 “Club nor any other has ever given me anything. No, Gentlemen, nor the Westminster Reform
 “Club ; it is a Club I never heard of, and I never belonged to a Reform or Political Club in my
 “life.”

This, however, is not the place to indulge in the reflections which the foregoing theme naturally suggests ; nor do I wish to enter into an examination of the important political changes which occurred afterwards in the remarkable career of Mr. Disraeli. But I may make a passing reference to a small paragraph which appeared in *The Spectator* of April 26th, 1835, p. 393 :—

“The Carlton Club have backed Mr. D’Israeli, ‘the Younger,’ against Mr. Labouchere,
 “at Taunton; but we have not heard that there is any ground for supposing that the Reform
 “majority of the borough will desert their late Member. Mr. D’Israeli was a Radical in 1833,
 “and is *actually* a Member of the Westminster Club !”

The latter part of this paragraph is inaccurate, for it will be remembered that on March 8th Mr. Disraeli requested that his name should be “withdrawn from the list of the Members of the
 “Society,” and that his cheque was returned, it may be concluded on the 14th of that month. Finally, it is worthy of remark that one year afterwards, viz., on April 23rd, 1836, Mr. Disraeli dined with the members of the “Westminster Conservative Association,” at Willis’s Rooms, to celebrate the first anniversary of the formation of that “political Union.”

At a meeting of the Committee of the WESTMINSTER CLUB, held February 7th, 1835, Mr. Joseph Hume, the eminent political reformer, was proposed and elected a member of that Club.



His supporters were Mr. Daniel O'Connell, and the Right Honourable Charles Tennyson, afterwards d'Eyncourt, uncle of the Poet Laureate, and the first representative under the Reform Act, for the metropolitan borough of Lambeth. At this same meeting a motion was unanimously carried "that Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P., be added to the Committee of the Club." This proved a noteworthy event, for at the first meeting which he attended as a committeeman, Mr. Hume proposed that a sub-committee (consisting of Messrs. Watson, Robertson, O'Meara, Wilks, and Sir R. Sydney), which had been formed for the purpose of preparing rules and regulations for the future government of the Club, should be instructed "to consider whether it be expedient to change " the name of the Club to the REFORM CLUB."

This seems a fit opportunity to introduce the subjoined letter, announcing the presentation of the old Minute Book (from which so much has been quoted) to the Library of the REFORM CLUB, through Mr. Charles de la Pryme, in May, 1873 :—

" SIR,—I have the pleasure to forward herewith the old Minute Book of the WESTMINSTER " CLUB. The word REFORM was suggested by Joseph Hume, M.P., when he joined it " 7th February, 1835. Mr. H. P. Fry, who was the Secretary, afterwards took Holy Orders and

“is now D.D. You will perceive the curious fact that Mr. D’Israeli was desirous to become a Member, but the honour of his association was declined.

“I was rather an active Member, being the great friend of Daniel O’Connell and the ‘Tail,’ but Mr. Joseph Parkes (now Master Parkes) making a schism to introduce his clerk, Mr. Coppock. Sir Matthew Wood and Mr. D. W. Harvey were the originators of the Club.

“I am, &c., &c.,

“W. R. SYDNEY.”

Doubtless there must have been some discussion upon the proposed alteration of name, though no record of any debate exists. Probably a sort of compromise was arrived at ; the title subsequently adopted being *THE WESTMINSTER REFORM CLUB*. This appears for the first time in the Minute Book under date of April 4th, 1835.

Some passing reference, at least, must be made to the personal history of a statesman, who, like Mr. Joseph Hume,—by his exposure of abuses in Church and State ; by his services in compelling economy in the public expenditure ; to say nothing of his unique example of perseverance and industry,—filled so conspicuous a position in the history of his time. He never took office, though his wealth, his independence, his long experience, and his great influence, so eminently qualified him to fill one. He had seen life under almost every form. The son of a master mariner and crockery dealer, he had risen from the humblest position. And the change in his political opinions was as great as that in his worldly circumstances ;—he began life as a Tory, but “when he saw the waste of public money, he constituted himself honorary auditor of the empire, and that votes were dictated by the Ministers, he became a reformer of Parliament.”

Joseph Hume was born at Montrose, in Scotland, in January, 1777. His mother is described as a person of extraordinary perseverance, energy, and self-reliance. After completing his course of medical study at the University of Edinburgh he sailed in the year 1797 to India, from whence in 1808 he returned to England, in the possession of a well-earned fortune, and four years later he took his seat for the borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis, but he was obliged to resign because “he had the audacity to talk reform.” In 1818, he married Miss Burnley, the daughter of an East India director, and in the same year was returned to Parliament as member for the Aberdeen burghs. He was afterwards successively elected for Middlesex in 1830, Kilkenny in 1837, and for the Montrose burghs in 1842, in the service of which constituency he died on the 20th of February, 1855. Six days later Lord Palmerston paid a high tribute to the memory of this Reformer, in these words :—“He was a man of whom it may be said that he took the lead in almost every measure of improvement which has of late years been carried into practical application.”

On the 2nd of March of the same year, 1855, a discussion took place in the present Committee Room of the *REFORM CLUB*, respecting a requisition for the purchase of Mr. Hume’s

portrait, but, as nothing came of it, a mezzotint engraving was presented by Mr. Martin Thackeray, in 1852. The frame hung for some time in the Writing Room.

We now approach the end of the career of the WESTMINSTER REFORM CLUB, for on the 5th of March, 1836, a report was read, having special reference to the unsatisfactory state of its finances. The paper contained these passages :—

“ From the documents it will appear that at the expiration of the second year, on April 14th, there will be a balance against the Club of £1,156 8s. 7d., which can only be met by contributions from each Member towards its discharge. Notwithstanding such unfavourable position your Committee can never regret the formation of the Club, and must attribute the need for such contributions rather to the recent establishment of the new Reform Club, than to any error in the objects and formation of this parent Institution. . . . The utility of the Club has been abundantly proved ; it has afforded an opportunity for a Union of Reformers in the Metropolis and in the Country, and England, Scotland and Ireland have all supplied Members who have promoted the cause of Reform by their Association, and have enjoyed a personal intercourse and pleasant convenient sociability that could not have been otherwise insured. Forty-six Members of the House of Commons now belong to the Club, and there was every reason to expect that one hundred additional Reformers would during this Session have been introduced ; with £1,050 that would have been so supplied all the debt might have been defrayed. . . . But the establishment of the new Reform Club places this Institution in the less agreeable position, to which the Committee allude. In that Club, nine hundred gentlemen are already enrolled and nineteen-twentieths of the Members of this Society have already contributed their entrance money, and annual payment towards that new Establishment. . . . With this, such convictions, the Committee cannot venture to advise the Club to enter upon a third year. . . . The Committee can only suggest that to meet the deficiency of £1,056 8s. 7d. that in April will exist, the sum of eleven guineas should be paid by each Member. . . . ”

To this must be added, that the Members of the Committee, paid a further contribution of £20 each, but the furniture, fittings, &c., were delivered to Mr. Alderman Wood, on Saturday, April 26th, 1836, and a final meeting of the Club took place May 9th, 1838.



CHAPTER IV.

THE Founder of the REFORM CLUB was the Right Honourable Edward Ellice, M.P., in whose residence, 14, Carlton House Terrace, the preliminary meetings were held early in the year 1836.



Mr. Ellice, who was born in London, in 1783, was a statesman of influence and varied experience. Educated first at Winchester, and afterwards at the Scottish University of St. Andrew's, he became early in life his father's agent, occasionally paying visits to Canada and the United States, where he made the acquaintance of the leading American statesmen. Entering Parliament as a member for Coventry in 1818, he represented the borough, with a short interval between 1826-1830, until his death on the 17th of September, 1863. His political principles were regarded by his contemporaries as extremely radical. His first official experience was acquired in his capacity of Liberal "Whip"—a functionary who must always possess that rare combination of tact, energy, and intellectual ability, which was so exceptionally requisite during the era of the great Reform struggles. Mr. Ellice's personal qualities gained him friends among all parties, and gave him that influence which he used so judiciously throughout his long career.



Prosper Mérimée, who knew Mr. Ellice intimately, wrote* respecting his friend's official post thus :—"Ce terme *whipper-in* est emprunté du "vocabulaire de la chasse : il désigne le veneur chargé de ramener les "chiens sur la piste. Par métaphore, on donne le même nom au confident du chef du cabinet (ou du chef de l'opposition) qui veille à l'union "intime des membres du parti. Relever le courage des timides, retenir "les emportés, apaiser les mécontents, négocier avec les neutres et en "faire des alliés, telle est la tâche du *whipper-in*."

In referring to his character the same eminent Frenchman said : "Il "était l'un des plus parfaits modèles du *gentleman* de la vieille roche " Tous nos hommes politiques l'ont connu et pratiqué, et il avait presque autant "d'amis en France qu'en Angleterre." It will be easily understood from the description of Mr. Ellice, how his hospitable house, at Adorchy, on his estate at Glengarry, became a general *rendez-vous* of eminent men. M. Mérimée alludes to Mr. Ellice's Highland retreat in these terms :—"Il allait l'été au fond de l'Ecosse s'établir dans une coquette petite maison au bord d'un beau "lac, entourée de hautes montagnes, sur lesquelles, au moyen d'une lunette, on voit errer des "troupeaux de cerfs sauvages. Là il réunissait les hommes les plus distingués dans la politique, "les sciences et les arts."

The first formal Committee Meeting of the REFORM CLUB was held at No. 104, Pall Mall, on May 5th, 1836. The house is described in the *Morning Post* of that period, as having been "lately occupied by the Countess of Dysart and let by the Commissioners of Woods and Forests "to the New Political Club, which has been recently formed. The house is narrow, but of much "depth, and in the rear it has a picture gallery, facing Carlton Gardens, which is converted into a "Club Room." However, the only work accomplished on that day was the appointment of Trustees and Committee for the ensuing year. These were :—

* Portraits Historiques et Littéraires. Paris, 1874, 8°, p. 290.

TRUSTEES.

THE DUKE OF NORFOLK.
THE EARL OF MULGRAVE.
THE EARL OF DURHAM.

THE RIGHT HON^{BLE}. EDWARD
ELLICE, M.P.
GENERAL SIR R. FERGUSON, M.P.

COMMITTEE.

H. A. AGLIONBY, ESQ., M.P.
ALEXANDER BANNERMAN, ESQ., M.P.
WALTER F. CAMPBELL, ESQ., M.P.
WILLIAM CLAY, ESQ., M.P.
JOHN CRAWFURD, ESQ.
EDWARD DIVETT, ESQ., M.P.
VISCOUNT EBRINGTON, M.P.
EDWARD ELLICE, ESQ., M.P.
GEORGE GROTE, ESQ., M.P.
JOSEPH HUME, ESQ., M.P.
HENRY KINGSCOTE, ESQ.
CHARLES SHAW LEFEVRE, ESQ., M.P.
HENRY SHAW LEFEVRE, ESQ.
DENIS LE MARCHANT, ESQ.
WILLIAM MARSHALL, ESQ., M.P.

SIR W. MOLESWORTH, BART., M.P.
JAMES MORRISON, ESQ.
DANIEL O'CONNELL, ESQ., M.P.
THE O'CONNOR DON, M.P.
BARRY O'MEARA, ESQ., M.P.
HON. C. A. PELHAM, M.P.
EDWARD W. PENDARVES, ESQ.
EDWARD ROMILLY, ESQ.
SUTTON SHARPE, ESQ.
EDWARD J. STANLEY, ESQ., M.P.
ROBERT STEUART, ESQ., M.P.
EDWARD STRUTT, ESQ., M.P.
SIR HUSSEY VIVIAN, BART.
HENRY WARBURTON, ESQ., M.P.
HENRY G. WARD, ESQ., M.P.

A second meeting was held on May 14th, when Messrs. Bannerman, Steuart, O'Meara, Strutt, Le Marchant, Ellice, Crawford, Sharpe, Aglionby, Stanley and Sir H. Vivian were present. It was agreed "that the Committee shall dine at the CLUB-HOUSE on Friday, the 20th instant, "and that a circular be sent to each Member of the Committee informing him of this "arrangement."

Eager to advance, with the least possible delay, the welfare of the new CLUB, the above-mentioned members met again on the 18th of May, when important business was transacted. They ordered, "that an application be made to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, for an "extended time in the house of 104, Pall Mall, with power to give it up at the expiration of "seven or fourteen years or sub-let." And settled:—"That Tuesday, the 24th of May, 1836, be "the day for opening the CLUB, to be advertised in the *Chronicle, Globe, Courier, Morning Advertiser, Sun, True Sun, Spectator, Observer* and *Examiner* Papers."

The advertisement reads thus:—"The Reform Club, 104, Pall Mall. The Club-House will "be opened to the Members on Tuesday, the 24th instant. —James Coppock, Secretary." Together with this appeared the annexed paragraph:—"The House, No. 104, Pall Mall, situated "between the Carlton and Travellers' Club houses, and next door to the temporary National

“ Gallery, has been fitted up for the immediate occupation of the Reform Club, under the direction of Mr. Decimus Burton, and is, we understand, to be opened for the reception of the Members on Tuesday next, the 24th instant, being the anniversary of the birthday of H.R.H. the Princess Victoria. The Club already consists of above a thousand members, admitted by the Original Committee, and we learn there are already above four hundred candidates to be ballotted for, as soon as the Regulations for admitting Members by Ballot shall be organised, and confirmed by a General Meeting of the Club.”

The opening day was, it may be remarked, uneventful. In less than a fortnight after that date, Mr. Walter Scott was appointed Secretary in the place of Mr. James Coppock, who had been acting in that capacity since the formation of the CLUB. Mr. Coppock was, however, elected a life member by the Committee, “for his valuable services,” the fee for his life membership, amounting to £65, was charged to the funds of the CLUB. Mr. Coppock was well-known as a political partizan. His wide connexion with the various constituencies of the United Kingdom made his office the centre of many electioneering operations, and led to his professional employment in the conduct of contested returns in the House of Commons.

The declared purpose of the REFORM CLUB was to promote “The social Intercourse of the Reformers of the United Kingdom,” and, “that it should consist of One Thousand Members, exclusive of Members of either House of Parliament, and of Foreigners admitted by the Committee.”

The present Rule is :—“I. The Reform Club shall consist of 1,400 Members, exclusive of Honorary, Supernumerary, and Life Members ; who shall be Reformers, elected by ballot, according to the rules hereinafter provided. Foreigners who shall have resided in the United Kingdom three years and are Reformers may be so elected. Other Foreigners may be admitted by the Committee in the manner prescribed by Rule III.”

With regard to the entrance money it was then, as now, payable on admission to the CLUB, and was to be of such amount as the Committee from time to time determined. Here is the present regulation :—“II. The Entrance Money, payable on admission to the Club, shall be of such amount as the Committee may from time to time determine. The Annual Subscription for Members elected before the 5th day of May, 1864, shall be £8 8s., and for Members elected after that date Ten Guineas. All subscriptions shall be payable on the First day of January in each year, after which day no notice of withdrawal shall exempt the retiring Member from the payment of the current year’s subscription.”

It would be tedious and unnecessary to enter into further details concerning the Rules and Regulations. One, however, which relates to the Ballot, is interesting. In the year 1838, it read thus :—“The Ballot (when there are vacancies) shall take place every Wednesday, during the sitting of Parliament, to commence at three o’clock and close at five. No Ballot shall be valid unless twenty Members actually ballot. Not more than Fifteen Members shall be balloted for on one day. A paper, dated and signed by the Secretary, containing the names and descriptions

“ of the Candidates, together with those of their several Proposers and Seconders, shall be put up,
 “ in one of the public rooms, at least a week before the day of ballot.”

And now :—“ VII. The Ballot for Members shall take place on such Thursdays as the
 “ Committee shall appoint during the sitting of Parliament, and shall commence at two o'clock
 “ and close at six. No ballot shall be valid unless twenty Members actually ballot. One black
 “ ball in ten shall exclude. Not more than fifteen Candidates shall be balloted for on one day.
 “ A paper, dated and signed by the Secretary, containing the names of the Candidates, with their
 “ usual places of residence, their rank, profession, or other description, and the places where they
 “ exercise their profession or carry on their business stated in such a manner as shall be deemed
 “ satisfactory by the Committee, together with the names of their several Proposers and Seconders,
 “ shall be placed in one or more of the public rooms, at least a week before the day of ballot ; and
 “ that, at least a month prior to inserting the Candidates' names in such paper, the Committee
 “ shall direct a communication to be made to each Proposer and Seconder, requesting them to
 “ vouch in writing for the eligibility of their Candidates—without which vouchers (one of which
 “ must be from personal knowledge), no name of any Candidate shall be inserted therein.”

Since the whole Building afforded barely sufficient accommodation for one third of the Members, Mr. Ellice made the suggestion that a larger and more suitable house should be erected for the use of the CLUB. This was about the middle of January, and the Committee acted with such promptitude that, on the 1st of February, it resolved to hire ground contiguous to the existing CLUB HOUSE. This space measured 47 feet 5 inches, by 100 feet.

This proposal being received with acclamation, an order was at once issued to the two architects, Messrs. Blore and Basevi, for an immediate inspection of the ground, and the preparation of the plans of the new building—according to a general outline to be supplied by the Committee. The estimates were to be submitted for the consideration of Mr. Ellice and Mr. Henry Warburton. The latter, I may here observe, was well-known for his sound and Liberal principles, and for his services to the cause of science and general enlightenment. Accordingly, the architects set immediately to work, and in a fortnight submitted their plans. The Building Committee, however, appeared undecided. It asked for additional plans, providing entrances and staircases through the old house, and room for twelve hundred Members. The result was that early in the month of March, 1837, a letter was addressed to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests requesting them to “ grant to the Trustees of the Reform Club a lease of the present
 “ Reform Club House on the south side of Pall Mall, and of the adjoining building ground for a
 “ term of ninety-five years to be computed from the Quarter-day, next following the day, which
 “ the Architects to the Commissioners of Woods and Forests shall certify to be the first day on
 “ which the said adjoining building ground shall have been cleared of the materials of the present
 “ building thereon, at the clear rent of £496 (or in lieu of redeemed Land Tax) the further clear
 “ rent of £28 for the first five years, and at the clear yearly rent of £744 18s. 9d. (in lieu of
 “ redeemed Land Tax), the further clear yearly rent of £52 3s., and upon condition that the

“expenditure on the intended new Buildings upon the site of the present Reform Club House, and
“the said adjoining ground be not less than £19,000.”

In next April the Secretary submitted to the Committee a further statement from Messrs. Blore and Basevi. It is apparent from this document that the Building Committee expected that the sum of £12,000 would cover the expenses requisite for the completion of the work. The estimate was, however, considered insufficient by the architects, who calculated the probable cost at about £20,000. The matter was again postponed, but only for a few days. It was the wish of the Committee that the Commissioners of Woods and Forests should consent to the inclusion in the lease, of the adjoining house, “in which the pictures of the National Gallery were deposited.” These preliminary negotiations were successful, and at last, on the 3rd of May, 1837, the Committee was authorized to conclude with the above-named Commissioners, the final engagements for the occupation of the three houses. In this same month the annual subscription was raised from £5 5s. to £6 6s., and the Life Membership from £65 to £70. It may not be inopportune to diverge from the direct course of the narrative in order to advert to an episode in the celebration of PRINCESS VICTORIA’S birthday in this year 1837. The Committee had decided, on the 25th of April to spend £15 10s. upon a device for illuminating the façade of the CLUB, on the 24th of May. The design selected was simple but appropriate, consisting of the single word VICTORIA. However, this very simplicity, provoked the following criticism from *The Times* of May 25th (p. 5):—“The Club-houses in Pall Mall, St. James’s, and elsewhere were elegantly and most
“appropriately illuminated, with one solitary exception, the Reform Club House in Pall Mall, in
“front of which was exhibited the word VICTORIA in variegated lamps. Some wags doubted the
“propriety of this display, and looking to the Parliamentary events of the preceding night, were
“sceptical as to the fitness of the word at such a moment. It was, however, questioned by some
“bystanders whether the display was designed as a compliment to the heiress presumptive or had
“reference to the *mighty* triumphs of the pseudo-Liberals in the Commons House of Parliament
“on the recent division. Whatever was the intention of the parties by whose direction the
“exhibition was made, it is beyond doubt that the word VICTORIA was in that view as much
“laughed at as though an insignificant *Five*, had blazoned forth in all the arrogance of conquest.” This last remark refers to a Bill which was introduced by the Government for the settlement of the question of Church rates, and the second reading of which was carried by a majority of Five. The Tory leaders do not appear to have celebrated the Princess’s birthday by a dinner. At the REFORM CLUB eighty members were present at a banquet, with Mr. Ellice in the chair; when
“he and Mr. O’Connell were mutually *civil* and *complimentary*.” There was little speechmaking, yet a good deal of conversation about the “union of Reformers and the happy prospects for the
“good cause in the next reign.” But most of the Reformers dined together at the Horns Tavern, Kennington, where Mr. Clay, Mr. Hawes, Mr. d’Eyncourt, Mr. Sheil, Mr. Ewart, Mr. Wason, Mr. Baines, Dr. Bowring, Mr. Edward Bulwer, Mr. Duncombe, Mr. Villiers, and three hundred other gentlemen appeared.

In the absence of Mr. Beauclerk, Mr. Clay presided. The "Health of Princess Victoria, the hope of the country," was given by the chairman and drunk amidst cheering. Mr. Villiers, in turn, proposed the "Health of the Duchess of Kent." His eloquent speech was at the time, regarded as the best he had ever made. In the course of his address, he remarked that in those days when the old men were retrograding, it was perhaps not undesirable that the young should press forward; and that he did not scruple to express the joy he felt at the dawn of a bright day which that anniversary presented to those who desired by purifying and reforming to strengthen the institutions of the country. In alluding to the strange rumours circulated by some individuals, to the effect that the Reformers were enemies of the Throne and the Church, he demonstrated how false, and indeed how absurd, the charge was. The speaker said:—"They were met to commemorate the attainment of the majority of the personage who might occupy the highest post in this country—who, if they were rightly informed, had been trained in principles suited to the day in which she lived, and to the country over which she was to reign, and who had been taught to understand that the English monarchy was upheld for the protection and happiness it was capable of affording to the people at large."



The life of a public man has, in all civilized States, been considered a species of public property and the events by which it is marked are the epochs of his country's history ; but if related in his life-time it is seldom of much value, unless it be an autobiography ; and the career of the Right Honourable Charles Pelham Villiers, M.P., one of the most accomplished, as well as one of the original Members of this CLUB, has so constantly been before the public eye, that for the purposes of this work, at least, little or nothing remains to be said of him which is not already in the common knowledge of the nation.

It is far from being the object of this work to enter into any trivial allusions to circumstances purely affecting private life, or to make any references whatsoever to private character, but there is a duty incumbent on a biographer, which the public have a right to expect, and which is as different as possible from the mere detailing of gossip only fit for the tea-table, in order to gratify the tastes of the vulgar. Mr. Villiers is in the unique position of having uninterruptedly represented the same constituency, that of Wolverhampton, for half a century. He was born in 1802, and is the third son of George Villiers and brother of the late Earl of Clarendon. At the General Election of 1826, Mr. Villiers contested Hull on Free Trade principles, but being defeated by a small majority, abstained for some time from seeking any other seat. In 1835 he came forward for Wolverhampton, and on the hustings in 1837, he pledged himself to move in the House of Commons for the total repeal of the Corn Laws.

The illustrious names of Richard Cobden and John Bright, which are so intimately connected with that of Mr. Villiers, must not be omitted here. Few have so well earned political fame as these two statesmen. Mr. Cobden's political career began at the time of the Queen's accession and extended over a period of a quarter of a century—a period signalised by great domestic reforms. He was distinguished for the singular consistency of his views and for a persistency in advocating them, from which he never ceased until he saw them embodied in legislation. On the 28th of June, 1837, he became a member of the REFORM CLUB, having been proposed by Mr. John Crawford and seconded by Dr. John Bowring, the accomplished scholar and politician, who together with Bentham, Fox, Roebuck, Sydney Smith, and Grote established the *Westminster Review*, a periodical whose appearance marked a new epoch in the history of Liberalism and brought an accession of wit and wisdom, science, and learning, to the Radical cause.

Mr. Bright was elected a member of the REFORM CLUB, August 9th, 1843. His proposer and seconder were Lord Marcus Hill and Mr. Villiers. This eminent statesman was returned for the city of Durham in 1843. He speedily became one of the foremost exponents of Free-Trade principles in the House of Commons. He was also one of the most eloquent pleaders for civil and religious liberty, a strong advocate for Parliamentary Reform, and one of the most steadfast friends of Ireland, when that unhappy country had few statesmen to support and assert her claims. Like his friend Richard Cobden, Mr. Bright can look back upon a career rendered illustrious by its eloquence and fidelity to principle, as well as by a freedom from vulgar ambition and from unworthy desire for the emoluments of office.

It is unnecessary to recapitulate the history of the Repeal of the Corn Laws. Suffice it to state, in the pertinent observations of an anonymous writer, that "it was not Mr. Villiers's eight years' vigorous advocacy, in and out of Parliament, of untaxed bread for the people that alone did this. Nor the influence of Sir Robert Peel; nor the 'unadorned eloquence' of Richard Cobden; nor the untiring energy of Mr. Bright; nor the trenchant writings of Peronnet Thompson; nor the thrilling lines of Ebenezer Elliot; nor the gigantic wave of subscriptions ridden and ruled by the Member for Stockport; nor 'famine itself, against which we had warred, which afterwards joined us'—not any one of these alone effected Repeal. The repeal of the Corn Laws was due, as all great measures are due, to the concurrence of numerous causes, to the united action of various agents, to the sagacity and firmness of many leaders. But Mr. Villiers will be known in history as the first leader of that band of earnest men who, with a singular grasp of fact and circumstance, clearly estimated the different forces of class interest, prejudice, and ignorance which, under the name of Protection, enthralled commerce, and kept the masses of the people constantly exposed to all the miseries of want and its consequences."



A club now widely known as the **COBDEN CLUB**, was founded in 1866, with the specific object of "encouraging the growth and diffusion of those economical and political principles with which "Mr. Cobden's name is associated." The Honorary Secretary of the Club is Mr. Thomas Bayley Potter, M.P., and its meetings are held in the Committee Room of the **REFORM CLUB**. From time to time dinners are given, generally under the presidency of some eminent English statesman. The first of these took place on July 21st, 1866, when Mr. Gladstone presided and made an eloquent speech on Cobden's life, character and work, and on the political principles to which his energies were devoted. In succeeding years among the chairmen of these banquets have been Earl Russell, Mr. Villiers, Earl Granville, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain and Sir Charles Dilke.

The originator of the club was Mr. Thorold Rogers, M.P., who in the month of March, 1866, waited on Mr. Bright, at his lodgings, then in Hanover Square, and submitted to him his views on the establishment of such an organisation. Mr. Bright at once suggested the name of Mr. Potter, as one to whom application should be made. Mr. Potter was duly consulted. He took up the scheme and prosecuted it with prompt vigour,—how successfully, is now matter of history. Mr. Thomas Bayley Potter, M.P., the son of Sir Thomas Potter, the first Mayor of Manchester, has been an active member of the **REFORM CLUB**, from the day of his election, March 24th, 1841. He was a personal and political friend of Cobden's and succeeded him in the Parliamentary representation of Rochdale. He also distinguished himself during the last few years of Cobden's career ; for he accepted the duties of President of the Union and Emancipation Society, a body which was formed on the lines of the Anti-Corn-Law League, and which laboured during the American War of Secession to maintain the popular attachment in this country to the cause of the Northern States.

It will be interesting to reproduce here, in its relation to an eventful period, the following extract of a letter written by Mr. Cobden on the 14th of July, 1842, to Mr. F. Cobden. "The last fortnight has done more to advance our cause than six or twelve months. The Peel party are fairly beaten in argument, and for the first time they are willing to listen to us as if they were anxious to learn excuses for their inevitable conversion. If I were disposed to be vain of my talk, I have had good reason, for both sides speak in praise of my last two efforts. The Reform and Carlton Clubs are both agreed as to my having pleaded the cause successfully."

With the evident intention of encouraging native talent, the **REFORMERS**, on May 16th, 1837, resolved at the suggestion of Mr. Rigby Wason, M.P., and Mr. George Rennie, junr., to recommend at the General Meeting, that the leading architects of the day be invited to compete for the erection of an entirely new building, and that their designs be exhibited in the Coffee-Room for fourteen days ; a premium of £50 to be paid to the successful architects, who were afterwards to be invited to submit further plans and to receive for them an additional sum of £100. This led to some discussion, but it was ultimately decided that the latter amount should be shared between the two competitors whose plans were considered the best.

The Building Committee was now composed of Messrs. Ellice, Gordon, Grote, Aglionby, Clay, Warburton, and Sir Henry Webb, who met by appointment, to confer with Mr. Charles Barry, Mr. George Basevi, junr., Mr. Edward Blore, Mr. Charles Robert Cockerell, and Mr. Sydney Smirke, on the 7th of June, 1837. Mr. Philip Hardwicke could not attend and Mr. Decimus Burton declined to furnish plans. The competition being restricted to Messrs. Basevi, Blore, Cockerell, Smirke and Barry, the Secretary issued a manuscript statement, containing the directions of the Committee, on June 14th.

Strange as it now seems, notwithstanding the great care and forethought bestowed upon the plans, the necessary provision for a Smoking-Room had been accidentally omitted in the written specification ; this omission was, however, soon remedied, the matter having been set right by Lord Henry John Churchill.*

It was agreed that the cost of the entire structure should not exceed £37,000, exclusive of £1,689, claimed as architects' fees. This latter sum remained unsettled for some days, and gave rise to a correspondence, which terminated in favour of the architects, on the 26th of June. Among the various letters on the subject, the following was addressed to the Committee :—

“ GENTLEMEN,

June 14th, 1837.

“ Referring to the paper forwarded to us by your Secretary this morning, we beg to state that
 “ we have been induced to accept the proposition of a competition of designs for the proposed
 “ Club-House upon the understanding that the ordinary remuneration should be awarded for the
 “ labour of the successful competitor, and taking into consideration the skill required in designing
 “ and constructing the proposed building, and also the responsibility attendant upon the execution
 “ of the work, we see no reason to depart from the received *principle* of professional remuneration.

“ We are, Gentlemen, &c., &c.,

“ C. R. COCKERELL,

“ G. B. BASEVI, Junr.,

“ EDW. BLORE,

“ CHARLES BARRY,

“ SYDNEY SMIRKE.”

Passing from these somewhat dry details, a more pleasant prospect now opens before us. On November 9th, 1837, Her Majesty Queen Victoria, paid a visit to the City. Nothing could be more gratifying than the enthusiasm with which the young Queen was saluted by her people. In the evening the CLUBS in Pall Mall were handsomely lighted, and the REFORM CLUB contributed considerably to enliven the scene. The façade was adorned with a device, which excited much admiration. It consisted of the word VICTORIA in variegated oil lamps, surmounted with a

* He was the son of the fifth Duke of Marlborough ; born in 1797, and died at Macao in 1840.

splendid crown, sixteen feet in height, and the national emblems, the rose, shamrock and thistle, tastefully entwined. The cost was £20. The ATHENÆUM had a projecting crown, supported by a double wreath of laurel, having on either side a large star, with the royal initials in the centre, the whole in brilliant glow of gas jets. The TRAVELLERS' had the cornices, pediment, and sides of the windows studded with small white lamps.

To return to the labours of the Building Committee ;—immediately after the usual holidays, its members met with a view to examine finally and minutely the numberless details involved in a project of such magnitude as the construction of the new CLUB. The Committee's report was no sooner approved by the General Committee, and the prize awarded to Mr. Barry, than this gentleman drew up the accompanying circular letter, a draft of which he submitted to the CLUB authorities :—

“ Foley Place,

“ 4th April, 1838.

“ The Building Committee of the Reform Club are desirous of contracting for the erection of
 “ a new Club House in Pall Mall. If you should be disposed to make a tender for the works, in
 “ competition with eleven other Builders, I have to request that you will attend at my office, at
 “ the Speaker's late residence, in New Palace Yard to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock, for the
 “ purpose of inspecting the plans, specifications and conditions, and of appointing a Surveyor to
 “ meet Mr. Hunt on behalf of the Club to take out the quantities. The tenders must be delivered
 “ to me at my offices at Westminster, on Monday the 30th instant, at 10 o'clock, when they will
 “ be opened in the presence of the competing parties.

“ I am, &c.,

“ CHARLES BARRY.”

Among the twelve competitors was the firm of Grissell and Peto, of York Road, Lambeth, which received the contract. The original amount of £37,000 having been increased to £40,000, Mr. Grote and Mr. Clay reported on the 11th of April, that they had been unable to obtain the money at the different Fire Insurance Offices. The Committee therefore resolved “ that as it was
 “ difficult to raise the sum desired, an attempt be made to raise £15,000 or £20,000 among
 “ members of the Club on debentures bearing five per cent. interest, secured on the whole property
 “ of the Club, subject to the prior mortgage on the building, and that the sum to be borrowed from
 “ one of the Insurance Offices should be reduced from £40,000 to £20,000 or £25,000. That
 “ these debentures should be issued in sums of £100 each the interest payable yearly.”

While these negotiations were progressing the Commissioners of Woods and Forests, anxious to dispose of the materials of the old houses, about to be demolished, offered them to the CLUB for £650. Barry's advice, however, was that the proposal should be rejected. But premises were required for the accommodation of members, during the re-building of the CLUB. The Secretary received a letter from Lady Clare's agent, offering to the Committee GWYDYR HOUSE, which is

situated close to Whitehall, and at present occupied by the Charity Commissioners. The terms were £3,000 for three years, exclusive of taxes and rents estimated at £160 per annum. The negotiations were placed in the hands of a Sub-Committee composed of Sir Henry Webb, Bart., Sir Burges-Camac, Mr. George Rennie, jun., Mr. Robert Gordon, M.P., and Mr. Benjamin Edward Hall, who signed the agreement about the middle of May, 1838. Matters now having been arranged, it was ordered on June 7th, that the HOUSE in Pall Mall be closed "on and after Sunday evening next," and GWYDYR HOUSE be opened for the reception of members on the following Tuesday, the 12th.

These temporary premises had to be furnished, and partly altered at the expense of the CLUB. The sum spent on this removal amounted to £1,226 6s. 8d.



GWYDYR HOUSE* (here represented) was built about 1760 on crown land, and on a lease of ninety years, by Mr. Peter Burrell, of Langley Park, Beckenham, Kent. He was the father

* In Privy Gardens, upon which Gwydyr House and other mansions were erected, resided the Duke of Buccleuch in 1738, the Duke of Portland in 1744, the Earl of Loudoun in 1764, and the Earl of Fife, the Earl of Liverpool, and other noble and distinguished persons.

of Peter Burrell, first Lord Gwydyr, who at his decease left the mansion to his wife, Lady Willoughby de Eresby, daughter and heiress of Peregrine, third Duke of Ancaster. She died in 1828, and left GWYDYR HOUSE to her daughter, Elizabeth Julia Georgiana, who married John, second Earl of Clare, on the 14th of April, 1826. Lord Clare died at Brighton on the 18th of August, 1851. He had no issue, and her Ladyship sold the remainder of the lease to the Government.

On the 28th of June, 1838, London witnessed a memorable event, the Coronation of the present Sovereign. The day was one of universal rejoicing and festivity, and the loyal cry of "God bless the Queen," then so loudly proclaimed, finds still a responsive echo in our hearts. The favourable anticipations of a happy reign, which were at that time so ardently entertained, have been fully realized, and it is not too much to say that the Queen, by her resolute determination to leave to her ministers the task of initiating those measures which may from time to time be necessary for the happiness and welfare of the land, by her constant sympathy with the poor and the distressed, and also through her own domestic misfortunes, has won for herself the respect and love of all her subjects. Queen Victoria presides over the destinies of the mightiest empire in the world, but she is the monarch of a free people, and her sway has ever been exercised

"With a touch that's scarcely felt or seen."

It may be easily conjectured that the REFORMERS were especially anxious to celebrate the day in a fitting manner. Therefore, on the morning of the 28th, a grand breakfast, prepared by Soyer, respecting whom I shall give fuller details hereafter, was given at GWYDYR HOUSE. There were over five hundred members present, besides eight hundred guests, chiefly ladies. In the gardens adjoining the CLUB, Herr Strauss and his band played the overtures of *Pré aux Clercs*, *Masaniello*, *Pot-Pourri*, *Le Bouquet*, and the *Die Khrohnung Waltzer*, the latter performed at the coronation of the Emperor of Austria a few years before. For this service, the famous musician received an honorarium of £30. A stand had been expressly erected for the band in the centre of the garden, adjoining the house. In short, all the arrangements and regulations were described as being most praiseworthy. In the evening the exterior of the CLUB was brilliantly lighted with gas.

With regard to the accommodation for witnessing the royal procession as it passed along Pall Mall, the Committee availed itself of the vacant spaces on the east and west sides of the empty but still existing house, and a huge scaffolding was erected, under the immediate superintendence of Mr. Barry, to accommodate over six hundred persons. The spectacle in Pall Mall, the *locus in quo* of the finest Club-Houses in Europe, was highly imposing. The Clubs were thronged with ladies, and the aspect of the interior of these luxurious palaces must have struck the many foreigners present with a lively sense of the wealth of England.

The streets, as it was stated, were alive with spectators. The windows were lifted out of their frames for the accommodation of sight-seers. "There were no dissentient voices," reported

The Times, "to the wide and honest acclamations of the people in honour of Queen Victoria. They thought of her, not as an individual to be loved with headlong zeal or played upon by corrupt adulation—their zealous and generous reception of Her Majesty was from a higher and far more valuable motive. It was because they regarded her as in herself *an institution*. They saw the monarchy in Queen Victoria, and pledged themselves that for her own sake they would uphold it, with the help of their Sovereign, so if not, they would preserve the monarchy, in spite of an ill-advised monarch."



CHAPTER V.

IN the history of the rise and progress of British Architecture the name of SIR CHARLES BARRY, R.A., will ever be honourably conspicuous.

The fame of an artist lives in his works, and it cannot be fairly and fully estimated during his lifetime, when he is thrown into the conflict of professional jealousies. The subject of the ensuing memoir was born in Bridge Street, Westminster, May 23rd, 1795. He was the son of Walter Barry, a stationer who was employed by Government, and who left his family well provided for. From boyhood he displayed a marked talent for drawing, and at the age of nineteen, after the completion of his school education, he was articled to Messrs. Middleton and Bailey, Surveyors and Architects to the parish of Lambeth, with whom he remained about five years. In 1812, Charles Barry exhibited his first drawing at the Royal Academy. By a strange coincidence the subject was "A View of the Interior of Westminster Hall," the same building which, in after years, inspired him with the idea of his greatest work. In April, 1817, in company with two architects, he proceeded to Italy—where his mind expanded under the influence of new studies, and the contemplation of monuments whose grandeur was the admiration and the despair of nineteenth century art. When in Rome, Barry met Sir Charles Eastlake and Mr. Kinnaird. In 1818, he proceeded to Greece, returning home in July, 1820. His earliest building was St. Matthew's Church, at Manchester, and in 1826 he erected, near the same city, a house, in pure Greek style, for Mr., afterwards Sir Thomas Potter, of Buile Hill. Two years later he submitted a competitive plan for the building of the TRAVELLERS' CLUB, in Pall Mall, and obtained the prize. This structure is considered to be an imitation of the Pandolfini Palace, at Florence, from which, however, Barry derived no more than a general idea. Those who are acquainted with both edifices, will readily acknowledge that they differ from one another in many essential particulars. However, the TRAVELLERS' not only exhibits purity of design, but is so exquisitely finished that even the minutest details leave nothing to be desired. At this time Barry stood at the head of his profession; in 1840 he was elected an associate of the Royal Academy, and two years later, a full member. Nor should it be overlooked that on January 29th, 1840, he became a member of the REFORM CLUB.

It would occupy too much space to present a description of all Barry's works—one, however, must be mentioned, and that is the present Houses of Parliament, the old building having been destroyed by fire on October 16th, 1834. From the numerous designs which were sent in for the new Houses, Barry's was selected. The work was begun in the year 1837, and it was brought so near completion in 1852, that on February 21st, when the new edifice was open, the Queen alighted for the first time under the Victoria Tower. Nine days later, the architect was knighted at Windsor. Sir Charles Barry died, May 21st, 1860, and was buried in Westminster Abbey.

In the commemoration of a great artistic achievement, the money question is an irrelevant—or at any rate—a secondary consideration. Works of Art must please or displease, in proportion to the degree of taste and judgment displayed in them. In every country national, public, or private buildings are, as I have already said, regarded as infallible indications of the state of civilization at the time of their erection. Hence it is the duty incumbent upon those who undertake them, jealously to consult the national reputation, and to concentrate upon their execution all their available wealth and native talent. It has, accordingly, been a common practice to submit the outline of the scheme to general or limited competition, and then to choose the design best suited to effect the particular object. On no occasion could this method of procedure have been more indispensable than when it was proposed by the Building Committee of the REFORM CLUB, to erect a new house in 1838. The Committee desired that the structure should surpass all others in size and magnificence. It should combine the various attractions of other institutions of the class. The space of ground to be filled was 140 feet, from east to west, by 110 feet in depth. The ATHENÆUM occupies a space of 76 feet only. The frontage of the TRAVELLERS' is 74 feet, and that of the CARLTON is 90 feet. The REFORM CLUB, therefore, was to be nearly equal to that of the ATHENÆUM and TRAVELLERS' combined, and one-third longer than the CARLTON CLUB.

At the General Meeting, the choice, as formerly stated, fell upon the design of Barry. The preference was nearly unanimous. This verdict, after so many years, is still considered as the right one, and is easily accounted for. In the plans, Barry showed numerous details which could not fail to attract and aid the unpractised eye. That the architecture should be easily understood, he supplied several sketches and drawings, some highly finished, showing the effect of the more important rooms. In fact he left nothing to the imagination. In his illustrations, Barry gave the exact measurements of each apartment, including even the offices, baths, bed chambers, &c., the last being then considered a novelty in a Club.

Mr. Cockerell's plan likewise furnished all the required information, and in an equal degree to those of his rival. The drawings received all the consideration due to the architect's reputation, as well as to their own merits. The principal feature in them was the Hall; it was rumoured that Barry afterwards imitated Cockerell in this particular, but to what extent, if any, I have not the means of judging. The front, towards Pall Mall, as drawn by Mr. Cockerell, presented three floors above the ground, with nine windows in each, and between the first and second floors stood massive Doric columns.

Mr. Blore in his design followed the modern Italian style. The façade was simple, but noble. The entrance was placed in the centre, with three windows on each side and Ionic pilasters supporting a balcony on the second floor. The basement comprised twenty-two rooms. The lower mezzanine was appropriated to bath, dressing, and servants' rooms. On the ground floor were coffee, morning, serving, billiard, and strangers' dining rooms. On the first floor stood the library, drawing, committee, and secretary's rooms. In the upper mezzanine were seven

bed chambers besides the upper part of the library and drawing room. The second floor wholly consisted of private apartments for the use of members. For some unknown reason Mr. Blore omitted, in his plans, sections and elevations to specify the measurements.

The exterior view of Mr. Sydney Smirke's design, showed a marked difference to those of his colleagues. It partook of the character of a highly ornamented Corinthian Temple. The entrance and front were situated at the west side of the ground. It represented a grand portico of four Corinthian columns, offering altogether a striking appearance, but unfortunately marred by its proximity to the CARLTON CLUB. The north side consisted of three floors with seven windows in each. The whole was crowned by a balustrade. The Pall Mall side occupied 110 feet only, whereas the ground available was 140 feet. The basement comprised the kitchen, scullery and various offices. On the mezzanine were thirty bed rooms, including baths and dressing rooms. On the ground floor were the hall, secretary's, morning and coffee rooms, all facing Pall Mall. On the first floor Smirke placed two libraries, drawing and committee rooms. The second floor included twenty-two bed chambers and the smoking room.

Barry's drawing, on the other hand, proved that he had not only availed himself of every inch of ground given him, but that he had planned on it a classical building with apartments so conveniently distributed as at once to identify him as the competitor most worthy of being entrusted with the undertaking.

So beautiful are the individual exterior features of this façade, that they contribute to the general effect, without destroying that breadth of surface and repose so essential to simplicity and grandeur.



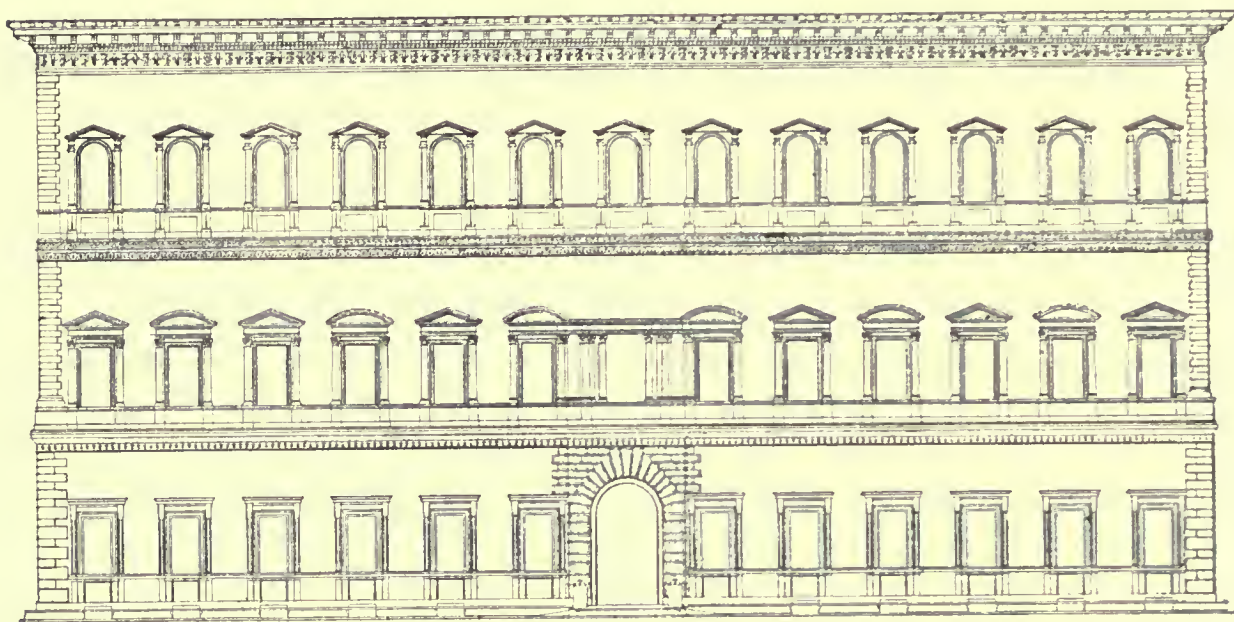
While contemplating this piece of architecture the spectator is not shocked by anything discordant or anomalous. There is no trace of vulgarity—on the contrary, we see solidity of construction, unity of design, and finish. The breadth of the piers or spaces between the windows adds considerably to the stateliness of its appearance, which is further enhanced by the rich cornice.

Neither is this imposing exterior a mere mask to internal insignificance—but rather a frontispiece worthily announcing the fascinating features of the building within. The superb hall, the decorations and arrangements are harmoniously blended examples of elegance, taste and convenience.



It has been alleged that the REFORM CLUB finds its prototype in the FARNESE PALACE, at Rome. There can be no doubt that we trace in Barry's composition the influence of the Roman-Florentine School. But that is all. Why should it not have been the natural—the

spontaneous result of the architect's studies, while in Italy? It is said that he copied the works of Palladio. But the REFORM CLUB is rather of the Anti-Palladian style! And in placing before the reader the subjoined illustration, which represents the FARNESE PALACE, I may perhaps succeed in setting at rest, once for all, this vexed question of plagiarism.



Now, in estimating the merit of any composition, be it artistic, literary, or scientific, we are naturally led to compare it with other works of a like nature and the same order of excellence.

It would be an injustice to the genius of the distinguished architect of the REFORM CLUB were he to be compared to other members of his craft of former periods, for notwithstanding the statement made by his son and biographer, Dr. Alfred Barry, that Sir Charles "doubtless had in "his own mind the Farnese Palace;" yet, with all deference to Dr. Barry, I would remark that the two structures in question, though designed in the same school, differ materially from one another, not only in composition, but indeed in decoration, and above all in that quality of proportion in which lies the charm of Barry's design. It is assuredly in no spirit of idle paradox or rash speculation that I venture to differ with the estimable biographer. In this sense of proportion resides the finest essence of architectural genius; it is the mark and guarantee of originality.

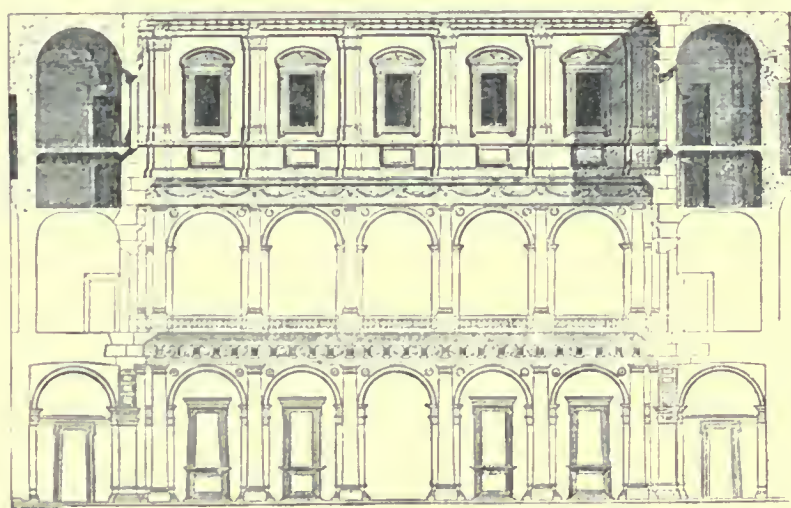
It is the duty of an architect, in examining the works of other nations, either ancient or modern, to divest himself of all prejudice, and to consider abstractedly the motives which have led to the adoption of those particular forms to be met with in each; taking, at the same time, into consideration the climates to which the buildings are adapted, the habits of the people for whose use they were intended, and, though last not least, the materials of which they were constructed. There is, of course, no style of architecture from which valuable information and assistance may not be derived, but to avoid mere imitation study and mental training are necessary.

It is the province of Genius to create and of Taste to select. Taste is the result of study—Genius is the gift of nature—united in the same person, as in the case of Barry, they help each other. I gather, however, from the writings of others, that Barry himself, in referring to his own drawings, used to express his regret that he had not given to the upper windows of the REFORM CLUB an importance commensurate with that of the lower stories. He also attributed blame to himself because, for want of some relief, the columns flanking his windows appeared to him as if embedded in the wall; yet he must have felt that, notwithstanding these differences of opinion, this work was as a whole his *chef d'œuvre*, of course not in magnitude but in design.

I have endeavoured to indicate the prominent claim of Barry to take his rank among the architects of Great Britain. It would be impossible within these prescribed limits to write a full description of the FARNESE PALACE, yet, a brief account may be acceptable. In the year 1549, Pope Paul III. invited a competition for the work of completing this Palace, which had been begun by Antonio da San Gallo in 1530, and at whose death, in 1546, the fabric had reached about half the intended height. Among the architects whom this invitation attracted were Perino del Vaga, Sebastiano del Piombo, Giorgio Vasari, and Michel' Angelo.

The FARNESE PALACE is a cubical mass, 260 feet by 192. Its three storeys attain the height of 97 feet to the top of the cornice. On the front and flanks, the lower storey is plain, consisting of a range of square-headed windows, broken in the centre of the front by a rusticated *porte-cochère*. Above this San Gallo seems to have designed a less important storey, crowned by Corinthian entablature, the dimensions of which were determined by pilasters at the angles, running through the two upper storeys. At this point Michel' Angelo was called in, and added the cornice which is the pride of the building, and in all probability he also drew the upper range of its rather disappointing windows.

The original plan comprehended two courts. The present court-yard is an exact square 90 feet each way, surrounded by arcades in three storeys, the upper one being filled with windows. Michel' Angelo also suggested the addition of a garden to the interior court of the Palace, from which the celebrated group of the *Toro Farnese*, now in the National Museum at Naples, was removed.



Having thus merely alluded to this so-called prototype of the REFORM CLUB, I must now address myself to a description of the London building.

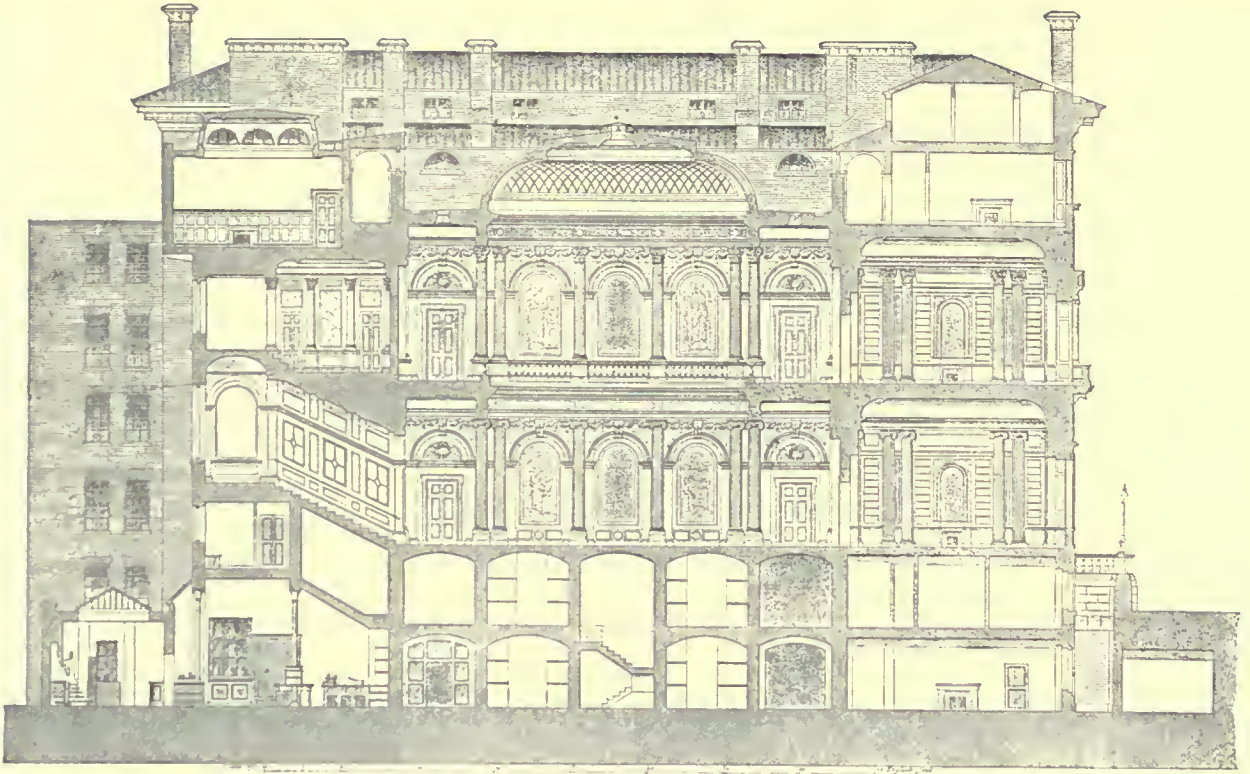
The REFORM CLUB consists of three uniform façades, those facing the north and south being 120 feet in length, that on the west 110; the two former have nine windows on a floor, the other eight. The height of the cornice from the street pavement is 68 feet. Though there are six floors from the basement, the building presents only three from the ground, the basement and mezzanine below ground, and the chambers for female servants in the roof being unseen.

The main entrance is above the ground, and is placed in the centre of the front; it has four windows on each side, but there are nine equi-distant on the first and second floors. The pediments surmounting the windows on the first floor in Pall Mall, are supported by Ionic pilasters, whereas those at the back, overlooking Carlton Gardens, are supported by rusticated pilasters. Another difference is that the former have segmental or curved pediments, on the latter angular ones. In other respects the elevations are uniform, a circumstance that conduces materially to grandeur of effect; for instance this cut, taken from a drawing made in 1842, before the rebuilding of the CARLTON CLUB, shows how the mass of the structure, and the continuity of its design, are emphasised, when two of the sides are viewed simultaneously.

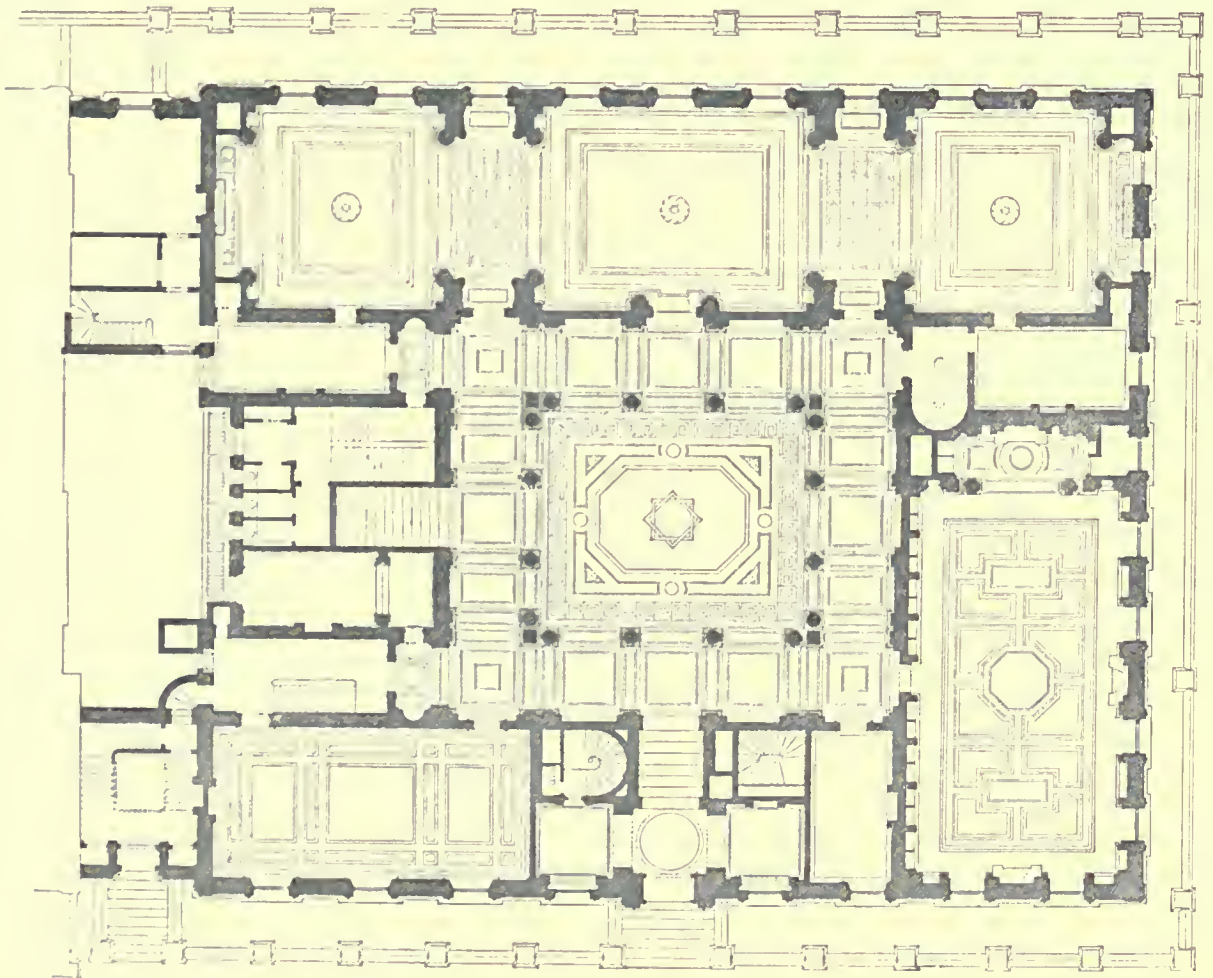


The height of the first floor is on the same level with that of the adjoining CLUB. A balustrade rises from the ground, on which are situated twenty-nine candelabri.

In entering the CLUB, the visitor ascends a flight of eight steps.



A minute description of the interior would require a plan of its six floors—to say nothing of the particular sections on a larger scale, mouldings, etc. The accompanying illustration may, however, aid my description of this floor.



From the Porter's lobby, which is of a moderate size, and lighted by two windows, one on each side of the main door, we pass up eight steps and enter the spacious quadrangular hall, from whence access is obtained to all the rooms. This hall occupies the centre of the building, and its pavement rises to the height of the first floor. The dimensions of the hall are 57 by 51 feet. The total height is 54 feet.

Twenty Ionic columns (surmounted by as many of the Corinthian order), each twenty feet high, and placed at a distance of nine feet from the wall, form a well-proportioned colonnade, environing a tessellated pavement executed by Alfred Singer of Vauxhall, and Henry Pether, artist, of No. 1, Surrey Grove, Old Kent Road, from a design by Barry, which is based upon ornaments of the Etruscan vases. This pavement was the first of the kind executed. The process was patented by Singer and Pether, on April 23rd, 1839, under the designation of "Certain Improvements in the Preparation and Combination of Earthenware or Porcelain, for the Purpose of Mosaic or Tessellated Work." The monograms of the designer, architect, tile-maker, etc., are seen at the corners of the pattern, viz.:—C. B. (Charles Barry), A. S. (Alfred Singer), H. P. (Henry Pether), and S. W. S. (? William Spottiswoode).

The invention consisted in manufacturing small rectilinear pieces of pottery, porcelain, or other plastic material, and combining them by calcareous or other cements, so as to produce slabs with ornamental devices. The method applied is as follows:—The clay or body, as it is technically called, being prepared in the usual manner well-known to potters, is reduced into bats or slices, of any required size and of uniform thickness, each bat or slice is smeared over on both sides with linseed or olive oil to prevent adhesion; they are then made into piles of any given number and placed in the centre of the bed of a machine, specially constructed, having intersecting wires previously stretched in the required figure. The bat is then pressed gently downward, and the wires pressing through the clay or plastic material cuts the whole of the bats or slices into uniform figures, and the superfluous clay being removed, these pieces are placed on shelves or stages to dry. They are afterwards packed in cases, burnt in a kiln into what is called biscuit, and then glazed or coloured after the method used for small articles of porcelain or earthenware. This accomplished they are ready for use. The space occupied by the pavement in question is 34 feet by 28.

At each angle of the hall are two columns and a square pillar, which produce an appearance of solidity. In front of them stands a square marble pedestal supporting a bust. From the cornice of the upper colonnade, a vaulted skylight, flattened in the centre, gives light over the entire extent. This handsome piece of work was executed by Mr. Apsley Pellatt at a cost of £600. It presents four sides; each side is entirely covered with a diapered pattern, the interstices of which are filled with pieces of cut glass, so that the light is increased by being refracted, and when the sun strikes upon the roof, the prismatic hues are produced by the facettes of the glass. In its centre is suspended a sun-burner, added in 1852.

In the upper and lower colonnade on the south side and facing the spectator as he enters, a view is obtained of the Coffee Room and Library through the two central arches, which are filled with sheets of plate glass down to the level of the back of the chimney pieces. A mirror, of similar dimensions, occupies also the centre of the western lower colonnade only reflecting the entrance to the main staircase.

In Barry's earliest design the space occupied by the present hall appears uncovered, like an Italian *cortile*. After some consideration this design was abandoned. Whether this feature would have added to the beauty or picturesque effect which Greek and Roman architects universally attributed to the building, may be a matter of opinion, but it is now contended by many, to whose opinion some deference is due, that, however delightful beneath the sky of Greece or Italy, it would have been ill adapted to the English climate and undesirable amid London smoke. Under English skies it would have meant the sacrifice of propriety and comfort to mere display. However beautiful and ornamental colonnades, porticos or *pateos* are, the application of them in modern architecture is at variance with one of the first principles of taste, namely, that nothing can be essentially beautiful that is misplaced or misapplied. How far license in this respect is admissible, when it is considered that architecture is an ornamental as well as a useful art—that it not only provides for our necessities, but, like the other Fine Arts, addresses itself to the imagination and enlarges the sphere of our more refined gratifications, it is not here my purpose to inquire.

The staircase is enclosed and has forty-four steps, partly in marble, viz., the ends. There is no well, and it cannot be seen at one view. It is approached through an open arch in the centre of the east side of the hall, and it leads into the upper floor or gallery, at the north-east angle. The walls of the entire hall, to the height of the impost mouldings and archivaults are covered with scagliola, except the panels between the pilasters, which contain some whole and half-length oil portraits. The skirting or plinth is throughout of marble—that of the lower colonnade being of Galway black, and the upper of St. Anne's. The Ionic columns, like the Corinthian, are of scagliola, but the capitals of marble, richly covered with gold. The plinth below the bases of the columns and pilasters of the upper order resembles Porto Venere, whereas the mouldings of the pedestals, the dado, and balustrade, exhibit a rich outline of Siena. The same portion of the lower order is executed in Oriental green and Egyptian granite. The cornice of the quadrangular balustrades and its base are of real Siena, but the balusters of Carrara marble. The dies of the pedestals and the dado of the Corinthian pillars imitate French white blue-veined marbles, and the centre panels of the dies Brocatello. The impost pilasters of the lower or Ionic, are in pale Giallo Antico, and the margins, or spaces between them and the architraves of the doors, are in Verde Antico. In the upper order again the impost pilasters are similar to the dies of the pedestals before named, and the margins or spaces between resemble also those of the lower colonnade. The architraves of the doors of the upper order are of the richest Brocatello, but those in the lower order are in imitation of a bright madder-coloured Egyptian porphyry, and the mouldings of the panels below and archivaults are of dark Siena marble.

The walls of the staircase are divided into panels and upon the two landing places are large mirrors and sofas. The two windows had formerly painted screens, which were replaced by stained glass from drawings supplied by Barry in November, 1854. They contain the names and emblems of the different parts of the United Kingdom, viz., "Anglia," "Scotia," "Hibernia." The whole of the mouldings on the staircase are of Belgian white and the panels of the dado are alternately of Verde Antico and Thessalian green. Above this, Siena and Brocatello are blended. The large Siena panels being inlaid with the latter, and having also in the centre a lozenge-shaped pattern inlaid with imitation Lapi-Lazuli. Large luxurious sofas, with bas-relief panels of open work, occupy the various recesses. Nor must I omit to mention the beautifully designed and carved wood-work, in the lower portion of the mirror on the north side. The paintings, in imitation of bas-reliefs on red ground, seen over the portraits on the east and west sides of the hall, and which represent the Arts of Design, are by Edmund Thomas Parris, the portrait and historical painter, who is also well-known for his gigantic Panorama of London, exhibited at the Coliseum in the Regent's Park.

In the summer of 1841, Barry suggested to some members of the Committee, that a certain portion of the hall should be decorated by Benjamin Robert Haydon. The proposal, however, was not entertained. Shortly afterwards the artist in writing to his friend Seymour Kirkup said (August 16th, 1842), "I will tell you something that will amuse you, as you are a Radical. A member of the Reform Club asked me if I would paint a panel in their hall in fresco. I offered to do it for nothing, but if successful, I was to be employed on the whole hall. I wrote out my plan, which was to illustrate the principles of Liberty, and to begin with a beautiful figure of Liberty. Meantime, a *job* was set afloat to introduce instead a series of Whig portraits. My offer was deferred. A head of Lord Holland was done by a man named Ponsford, and let in. It looks, I assure you, more like wood than the panel itself. And then they put in four infants to represent the Arts of Design, in bastard fresco-like *fiamingo*. And this is how they illustrate their principles!"

The doors throughout the CLUB on the ground floor are wainscot-oak, and in the upper floor bird's-eye maple. On the right of the hall and entrance there is a small but convenient Strangers' Room, which contains a large map of London, and four engraved portraits, viz.: those of Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Villiers, etched respectively by Mr. G. E. Tucker and Mr. A. S. Cope; Mr. Joseph Hume, and Sir Charles Barry. Over the fire-place hangs a medallion frame containing three life-size profile heads, grouped together, those namely of Washington, Lincoln and Grant. The work was designed and modelled by W. Miller in 1869. Below this is a frame enclosing a fac-simile copy of the original Declaration of the Independence of the United States of America, read in Congress, July 4th, 1776, and now preserved in the Museum at Washington. The window in this room looks towards Pall Mall. From here, the visitor may proceed to the Morning Room, where there is a well-arranged Parliamentary Library, with English and Foreign newspapers, directories, almanacks, &c., and furnished with writing materials, large sofas,

arm-chairs, and tables. The room also contains three mirrors, each placed over a marble fire-place.

The size of this room is 25 feet by 59, and 20 feet high, with four windows facing towards the east side of the CARLTON CLUB, and two towards Pall Mall. On the south side of the room are a couple of columns. The book-cases, which cover the entire surface of the walls, are of wainscot, with pilasters, having panels of pollard oak. Above there is a bas-relief, about one-half of the original size of the frieze with which Pheidias decorated the exterior of the Parthenon, which was constructed by Iktinos, between 454 and 438 B.C., under the administration of Perikles and on the site formerly occupied by the ancient Temple of Athenè, the Hecatompedon, burnt on the sacking of the Akropolis of Athens by the Persians in 480 B.C.

In the years 1801-3 the sculptures of the Parthenon were removed to England by the Earl of Elgin, then British Ambassador at Constantinople, who obtained a firman from the Porte for that object. The Elgin Collection was purchased in 1816 for £35,000 and placed in the British Museum. The subject of this frieze, according to the best modern authorities, is the celebration of the Panathenaic festival. Before describing how this celebration is represented here, it may be well to state what facts respecting the festival have been handed down to us by ancient authors. Its mythic founder was Erichthonios, the foster-son of the goddess Athenè herself, and the festival is said to have been afterwards renewed by Theseus when he united all the Attic demes into one city. The goddess in whose honour it was celebrated was Athenè Polias, the tutelary deity of the Athenian Akropolis, where she was supposed to dwell in the "Old Temple," and where her worship was associated with that of Erechtheus, who dwelt under the same roof. The time of its annual celebration was the last decade of the month Hekatombaion, when, according to legend, the birth of the goddess took place.

A solemn sacrifice, equestrian and gymnastic contests, and the Pyrrhic dance, were all included in the ceremonial, but its principal feature was the offering of a new robe, *peplos*, to the goddess on her birthday. This original yearly festival was after a time celebrated in every fifth year, with more splendour, and the institution of this quinquennial Greater Panathenaia or *Penteteris* is attributed to Peisistratos. From his time (B.C. 560-527) dates the distinction between the Greater and the Lesser Panathenaia. The sons of Peisistratos added a musical contest of Rhapsodes, and these were amplified by Perikles, who himself acted as distributor of the prizes, *Athlothes*. At the Greater Panathenaia each colony in which lands had been assigned to Athenian *Kleruchi* contributed a cow and two sheep to the sacrifice. The *peplos* of Athenè was a woven mantel renewed every five years. On the ground, which is described as dark violet and also as saffron-coloured, was embroidered the battle of the Gods and the Giants, in which Zeus and Athenè were represented as taking a prominent part.

On the birthday of the goddess the procession which conveyed the *peplos* to her temple assembled in the outer Kerameikos, and passed through the lower city round the Akropolis, which it ascended through the Propylæa. During its passage through the Kerameikos the *peplos* was

displayed on the mast of a ship, which was propelled on rollers. In this solemn ceremony on the birthday of their goddess, the whole body of Athenian citizens were represented. Among these were the envoys from the Athenian colonies in charge of the victims for the sacrifice; the noble Athenian maidens, *Kanephoroi*, who bore baskets, *kanea*, with sacred offerings for the sacrifice; the *Metoiks*, *Skaphephori*, whose function it was to carry certain trays, *skaphæ*, containing cakes and other offerings; the elderly Athenian citizens who bore olive branches, and were hence called *Thallophori*. Chariots and horses were among the most striking features in the procession. On this occasion appeared certain *quadrigæ*, which were only used in procession, and were hence called pompic chariots. An escort of Athenian cavalry and heavy infantry completed the show. The whole ceremony was under the direction of the *Hieropoioi*, and the multitudinous throng was marshalled and kept in order by the Demarchs and by the heralds of a particular Gens, the Euneidæ.

To return to the Morning Room. In the centre of the ceiling is a sun-burner, and over the door, on the east side, is a clock.

The Coffee Room comes next. It is 117 feet long by 26 feet wide, and 20 feet high. Occupying the whole length of the south or garden façade, it has consequently nine windows on that side, and two at the west end. The ceiling and the grouping of the columns are so planned as to prevent the room from appearing long and narrow. It is divided by piers into three compartments, the centre of which has three windows, the others two each, and between them are intermediate spaces or narrower compartments, with a single window in each, so disposed as to form internal bays, with similar ones opposite them, into which the doors open from the hall. These divisions, however, do not in any way interfere with its general effect. On the east and west sides of the room are three large mirrors. From the centres of the three compartments of the ceiling are suspended three chandeliers, burning mineral oil. In the middle of the northern wall is an arch, which is filled with the piece of plate glass already mentioned. In front of this the carving operations are carried on. At both ends of the room, high up, there are two large clocks, and in the centre stands a desk where the cashiers and other officials congregate. A cloak room, offices, and a strangers' dining room (which is 49 feet by 20 feet, and where the ballot is conducted) complete this floor. This last-named room has three windows in Pall Mall. Ascending the staircase we approach, from the north side of the upper gallery, the Library. The walls of this room, which were originally hung with blue, but afterwards with yellow silk damask, are now covered with bookcases. At both ends of the room are large mirrors. The vaulted ceiling, which is richly decorated with mouldings, is the work of Bielefeld. The furniture made by Taprell, Holland & Son, of 19, Marylebone Street, was covered, before the alterations (of which more hereafter), with blue Utrecht velvet. The Library being immediately above the Coffee Room, has, therefore, the same proportions. The columns, twenty in number, are differently disposed. They were formerly of Belgian white scagliola, but are now of wood. On the north side, in the centre of the room, and over a fireplace, stands a white marble

bust of Milton, somewhat smaller than life-size, on the pedestal of which is the following inscription :—

JOHN MILTON.
PRESENTED
IN MEMORY OF
MARTIN THACKERAY, ESQ.,
ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF
THE REFORM CLUB,
WHO DIED 18TH JUNE, 1864.
BY HIS WIDOW, A. T.

This bust was given through Mr. Charles De la Pryme, on the 29th of June, 1866.

For the sake of accuracy I may add that Mr. Thackeray was not “one of the Founders of the “Reform Club,” for he was proposed by Mr. W. Marshall, and seconded by Mr. Charles Pryme, November 3rd, 1837, and elected December 13th of that year. But the name of Mr. Martin Thackeray deserves special mention in these pages, for he was one of the leading Committeemen for many years. Together with Lord Marcus Hill and Mr. Ellice, this gentleman gave personal guarantee to the Building Fund of the CLUB. Born at Cambridge in 1783, he was educated at Eton College, from which he proceeded in due course to King’s College, Cambridge, where he filled the office of Vice-Provost until 1834. Mr. Thackeray was in politics an advanced Whig. “He “had a clear strong intelligent mind, with a remarkably retentive memory, and great capacity for “statistics, which he was continually improving even to the last day of his life.” He died at the age of 81, surviving his distinguished relative William Makepeace Thackeray by less than six months, and near whose remains he is buried in Kensal Green.

To return to the even tenor of my description ; immediately behind Milton’s portrait, but on the other side of the glass, which fills the centre arch, and in fact on the south side of the hall, is the marble bust of John Hampden. It is the work of Thomas Smith, of 5, Savoy Street. Its donor was Sir Henry E. Austen, and it was placed here, on the two hundredth anniversary of the patriot’s death, June 24th, 1843. The inscription on the pedestal is the same as that which occurs in Stowe, in the Temple of British Worthies :—

WITH GREAT COURAGE,
AND CONSUMMATE ABILITIES,
HE BEGAN A NOBLE OPPOSITION
TO AN ARBITRARY COURT,
IN DEFENCE
OF THE LIBERTIES OF HIS COUNTRY,
AND SUPPORTED THEM IN PARLIAMENT
AND DIED FOR THEM IN THE FIELD.

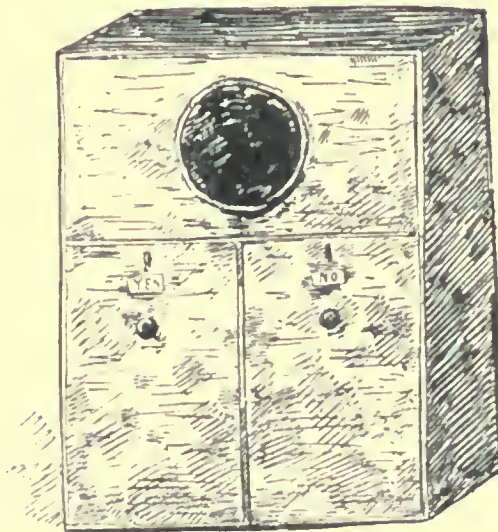
The Committee, Card and Map Rooms, the Librarian's Study, the large and small Smoking Rooms, besides two Billiard Rooms and various offices, are on this floor. The Committee Room, overlooking Pall Mall, has two windows, and it contains book-cases of maple. The Librarian's Study and the Map Room (so called because of its few roller-maps, placed here at the special request of Mr. Hume, March 17th, 1842), have each a window. The Smoking Room, perhaps the handsomest in London, was formerly the Library. To the alterations which took place later on, I shall have an opportunity of referring in the succeeding pages. The Smoking Room, however, is situated in the west side of the building, and is above the Morning Room. The walls are likewise covered throughout with book-cases of maple wood, and surmounted by a frieze similar to the one already described. The ceiling is richly decorated, having towards the centre the monogram R. four times repeated and beautifully executed in relief. The same letter, but single, occupies a small circular panel, seen over each column in the hall, and in other parts of the building. On the south side of this Smoking Room stands the marble bust of Charles James Fox. The small Smoking Room occupies the south-east corner of the CLUB. It has three windows, looking towards Carlton Gardens.

On the third floor are eighteen bed-rooms, for the use of members only, with access to them, not only by a staircase on the east side of the building, but also by another situated near the Map Room. Above the chambers are servants' bed rooms, and an apartment reserved for books not in actual use.

It is worthy of remark that although the REFORM CLUB immediately adjoins the TRAVELLERS', it does not extend quite up to the latter building. They are separated by a break forming an intervening compartment of about fifteen feet wide, in which is the entrance to the REFORM CLUB Chambers. As this portion of the structure is not carried so high as the rest, it does not interfere with, or occasion any irregularity in the architectural mass; whereas had it been raised to the level of the TRAVELLERS', it would have overpowered that building, which, instead, is relieved by the intermediate space. The roof is covered with Italian tiles, made by Messrs. Rutledge and Keene, of Belvedere Road. The exterior of the REFORM CLUB was faced with Portland Stone at a cost of £3,000. It is considered a good specimen of masonry work. Finally, the chimneys are treated as parts of the design instead of being concealed, as unsightly objects, from view.

Before entering into a description of the kitchen and basement, I shall advert to the scientific manner in which the erection of the structure was carried on. A strong scaffolding was constructed of timber, and on the top was laid a railway, upon which worked a traversing crane that could be moved along the whole place either longitudinally or transversely. Only two accidents happened during the building operations. The first man disabled, in consequence of a fall from the scaffolding, was one John Henson, a bricklayer. This occurred June 14th, 1839; he received £5 from the Committee. The second was James Fox, who fell on September 13th, 1840; he received £2 2s.

By the end of 1840, the exterior was almost finished. This rapid progress was owing to Barry's unremitting toil and watchfulness, but this notice would be incomplete if it made no reference to certain complaints, which members addressed to the General Committee, in the month of September, 1840, on what they considered to be the slow progress of the CLUB-HOUSE, and which the architect regarded with no kindly feelings.



CHAPTER VI.

AT the time of its completion, the culinary department of the REFORM CLUB, was pronounced by connoisseurs to be unrivalled. It well deserves some notice.

At the CLUB, and to the left of the Porter's lobby, stands a small door which communicates, by means of a staircase, with the Secretary's office, the mezzanine and the basement. Crossing a broad arched passage, which traverses the building from side to side, we reach first the front area, containing a line of cellarage, and next the engine room, where the work of heating the entire structure is effected. The fumes of the furnace escape through a long winding flue, extending upwards beyond the roof. In the pavement of the area is the well, having a shaft lined with iron tubing, besides a complex apparatus of pumps, capable of supplying a large amount of water. In the outer area is the fanning machine, which, when in use, propels air throughout the CLUB, by means of channels expressly made for the purpose.

It has been remarked that the knowledge required by an architect, for the satisfactory exercise of his profession, must necessarily be extensive and varied. He has to supply information upon all sorts of subjects. The list of qualifications given by Vitruvius has raised amusing doubts as to whether anatomy and music are also needed. The fact is, that there is not a single branch of Art or Science which the architect should overlook ; and that if he desires to raise himself above the rank of a mere builder, he has to enter into a philosophical investigation of everything in Art as in Nature, which bears upon his craft. In the present case Barry had to consider a prosaic problem upon which the comfort of a club-house so much depends—the problem of the kitchen grate. Now a grate may be so contrived as to hold, even within narrow space, its full complement of pots and pans, and at the same time to afford a constant supply of hot water, and likewise to heat the whole of a large establishment. A designer, therefore, must look minutely to all the details of this non-æsthetic question, especially when he has to deal with a mansion, hotel or club. It may, then, be said at once that the kitchen, scullery and larder of the REFORM CLUB are worthy, not only of Barry, but also of its far-famed *chef*, Soyer, who introduced into his department several useful and new contrivances.



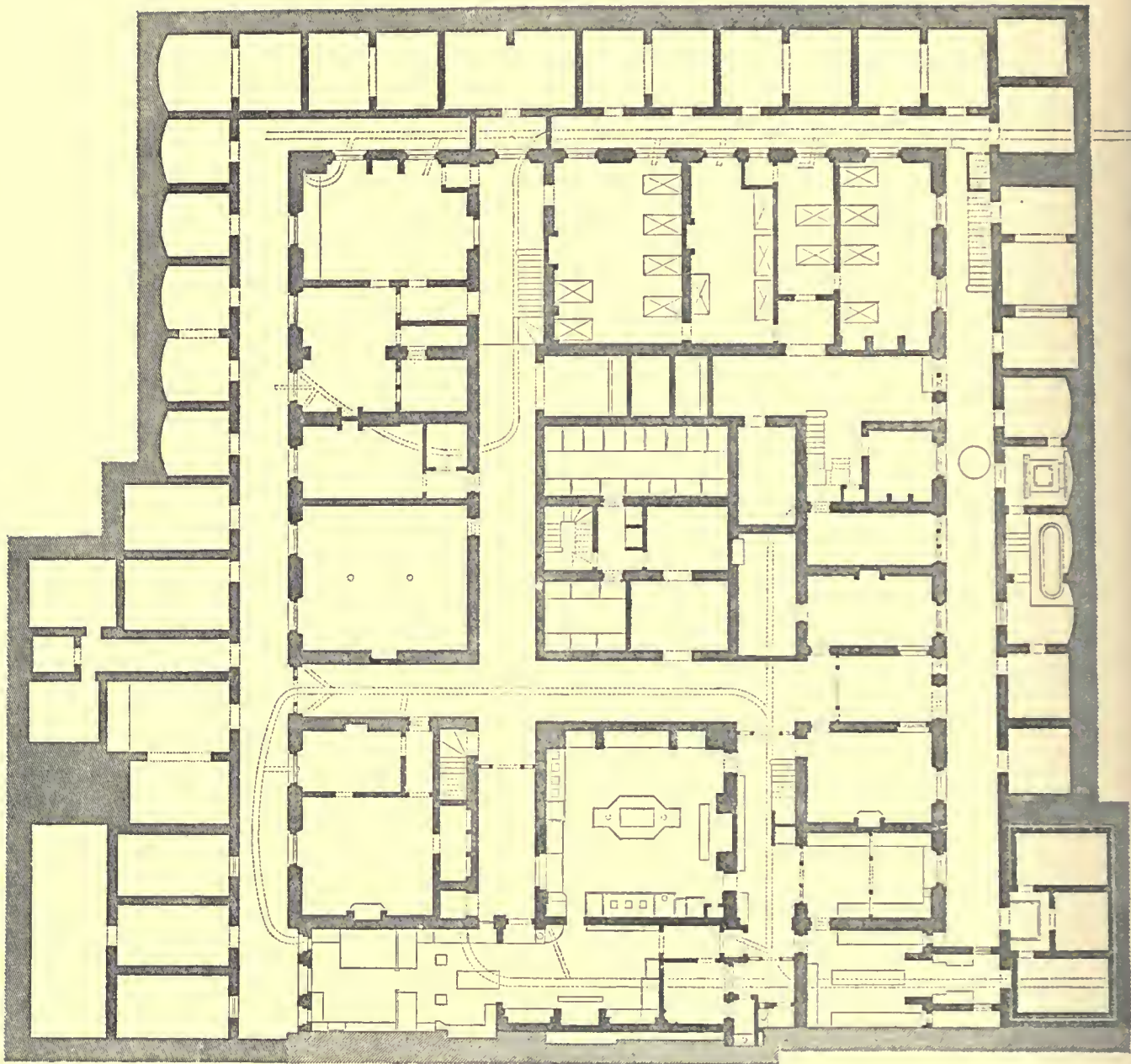
Monsieur Alexis Soyer was born at Meaux-en-Brie, a small town in France, in October, 1809. In 1821, he was sent to Paris, where he worked in the house of Grignon, Rue Vivienne, then in much repute for the banquets it supplied. At the age of nineteen, the youth was appointed *Premier de l'Administration*, at the Café d'Ouix; holding this post on the 26th of July, 1830, when he assisted at the preparations of the celebrated entertainment given by Prince Polignac. In consequence of the political events which followed, Soyer left Paris for London to join his brother in 1831. Here he was engaged by the Duke of Cambridge, and subsequently by the Duke of Sutherland and other high personages. In 1836, the year before he entered the service of the REFORM CLUB,* he married Emma Jones, the portrait painter, who died in child-bed, August 29th, 1842.

While the building was going on in Pall Mall, Barry was greatly aided in his task of planning the kitchen, by the great *chef*, who published some years later a long account† of it, from which I have borrowed the following extracts:—

“The essential part of the kitchen department of the Reform Club,” says Soyer, and as shown in the following plan, “is complete in its several arrangements, and one cannot help noticing that “in spite of the moderate size of this room everything is contrived with the utmost convenience,

* The first cook of the Club was Auguste Rotivan, who was appointed June 3rd, 1836, but left three weeks afterwards.

† The Gastronomic Regenerator.



“ perfect ventilation, and with due economy. The length of the room is twelve feet by nine ;
 “ at the further corners are two blocks to cut the meat upon, which are two feet in diameter, and
 “ two feet seven inches high, including the supporters, eight inches from the floor, giving facility
 “ to clean underneath, also to prevent decay ; between the two blocks is a patent scale of simple
 “ construction, and very convenient, upon which can be weighed above two hundred pounds of
 “ meat with great ease. On the right and left are two tables, three inches thick, six feet six inches
 “ long, one foot nine inches wide, and three feet three inches high, with a drawer to each, and a
 “ square box, covered over, underneath the tables, for waste fat, &c. ; above the tables is a flat rod

“ with small hooks, one inch and a half long and three inches apart, upon which are various sized
 “ meat-hooks ; all round the room upon the walls are thick slates, six feet high. These slates,
 “ lately introduced in building, I would particularly recommend where coolness is required, and
 “ also as being very clean.

“ PRINCIPAL LARDER FOR MEAT AND GAME.

“ The gastronomic variety generally collected in this sanctuary of taste requires the utmost
 “ care and cleanliness, the joints prepared for the day arranged with symmetry and taste, so as to
 “ present to the eye the finest sides, the same respecting the dressed meat dishes and cold poultry,
 “ which should always be trimmed and garnished with fresh parsley, ready to be served up at a
 “ moment’s notice. A good ventilation, being of the utmost importance, should be particularly
 “ attended to. . . . The size of the room is eighteen feet by fifteen, having on the right side
 “ a dresser fourteen feet long, three wide, and two feet ten inches high, the top is of slate one inch
 “ thick, instead of wood, which is an excellent substitute, and always covered with a dresser cloth ;
 “ there are eight ice drawers opening on castors, when large and deep as these, it is advisable to
 “ make them in a similar manner running on castors, as their weight would otherwise cause them
 “ to open with difficulty. The first four are two feet eight inches square and nine inches deep,
 “ lined with lead, and principally for jellies, ice creams, &c. ; the others beneath are deeper, for
 “ pickling-tubs ; the temperature is from thirty-five to forty degrees, allowing comestibles of the
 “ most delicate kind to be kept a considerable time without deteriorating their qualities. The
 “ construction of these drawers is considered ingenious ; the bottom being inclined on each side
 “ towards the middle, which forms a channel, at the end of which there is a small drain to let the
 “ ice-water escape without the assistance of hands, having at the back a pipe to receive the waste
 “ water running into other pipes outside. On the left going in there is another sideboard of the
 “ same material. At the end of this sideboard is a slate well, used for soaking hams, tongues and
 “ calf’s head. On the right are fixed divisions, boxes made of slate, for vegetables. The whole
 “ appearance of these boxes is agreeable, for you see at once all the various productions of the
 “ kitchen garden the most in season, and kept separate. On the ceiling, suspended by fixed iron
 “ rods, is a large frame ten feet long and six wide, divided into three parts, having eight iron
 “ rods, one on each side of the transverse battens, to hang up the joints, game, &c.

“ THE COLD MEAT AND SAUCE LARDER.

“ This room, close to the other, is thirteen feet long and eleven feet wide. On the right is a
 “ meat safe, constructed on a new principle for keeping cold meat, and by which flies are always
 “ excluded. The doors by a simple contrivance open and shut, as if it were by themselves, by
 “ means of a cord and a weight, which draws them.

“ PASTRY AND CONFECTIONERY.

“ This important part of the kitchen department may appear small at first view, being only
“ eight feet long and thirteen feet wide, but the arrangement is in every respect perfectly
“ convenient. A marble slab, five feet nine inches long and three feet wide, on a level with the
“ windows, with two ice-drawers beneath, one for butter and eggs and the other for preserving
“ various forcemeats, salad, sauces, &c., is sufficient for the work of two pastry cooks.

“ ROASTING KITCHEN.

“ On entering this room you see in a direct line the vegetable kitchen and the scullery. On
“ the left there is a low cast iron French stove for boiling large joints and making stock which has
“ been previously boiled on a quick fire, and removed there to simmer gently : this stove is two
“ feet seven inches long, two feet nine inches wide, and one foot nine inches high, and is purposely
“ made low on account of the great weight lifted on and off. In the centre is a grate, one foot
“ square, for charcoal. Contiguous to it is another cast iron stove, or hot plate, the waste fire of
“ which heats the small oven for gratins, soufflés, &c. At the end, on a line with the fire-place,
“ is the steam-closet. A boiler is at the back, which holds one hundred gallons of water, always
“ hot.

“ VEGETABLE KITCHEN.

“ At the end of the roasting kitchen, and only divided by an arch twelve feet in span, you
“ enter this room, fifteen feet long and sixteen wide. On the left, upon a wide shelf, are three
“ steam-boilers. Next is the vegetable sink. Above is a plate rack, eleven feet long and one
“ foot deep.

“ Then follow the SCOURING SCULLERY, STEAM BOILER, BUTLER'S PANTRY, OFFICE, &c.

“ THE PRINCIPAL KITCHEN.

“ The size of this kitchen is twenty-eight feet long and twenty-four wide ; in the middle is
“ an elm table, made on a plan entirely original, having twelve irregular sides, and giving the
“ utmost facility for the various works of the kitchen, without any one interfering with another.
“ The principal length is twelve feet by seven wide, and three inches thick. Under the edge of
“ the table in front are two sliding boards, two feet long, which are used for straining sauces,
“ purées, &c. In the middle of the table is a cast-iron steam-closet, four feet one inch long,
“ two feet eleven inches wide, and two feet nine inches high, with two doors sliding on each side,
“ with shelves, etc. On the right side of the table is a roasting fire-place, principally used for
“ game and poultry, on a plan entirely new.”

Finally, Soyer thus concludes his description : “ I now beg leave to remark to my readers that “ if I have been a little tedious in giving the exact measurement of the different parts and every “ object of this kitchen by feet and inches, it was with the view to be useful to those who have “ honoured me with their subscription, and to the public. I dare hope that my humble efforts “ will have the effect of producing hereafter a reform in the art of building and fitting up a kitchen, “ which, without being of an immoderate size, contains all that can be wished for as regards saving “ of time, comfort, regularity, cleanliness and economy. I am happy to have this opportunity of “ acknowledging that without the great liberality of the honorable members of the Reform Club, “ and the kindness of that celebrated architect, Mr. Barry, I could never have succeeded in “ accomplishing the improvements so essential in a well-regulated establishment ; I shall, therefore, “ remain always gratified for the encouragement they never ceased to give me in confiding to my “ direction this new system of building and fitting up a kitchen which is now in active operation, “ not only for the economy of the Reform Club but to serve as a guide to the amateurs of a good “ kitchen as well as of good living.”

Notwithstanding the great indulgence with which Soyer was treated by the Committee, his conduct was not always quite satisfactory. At times he failed in respect towards his superiors. On June 18th, 1844, his resignation was accepted owing to his “ great irregularity.” Soyer, was, however, reinstated at his own special request three days afterwards. The cause which led to the *chef's* final departure was, according to his biographer, the introduction of the new rule admitting strangers into the Coffee Room daily, instead of twice a week, as was the custom when Soyer entered the service of the CLUB. This regulation, which was first moved by Mr. Horatio Love and seconded by Mr. George Byng Morris, on May 1st, 1850, seems to have rendered this culinary artist incapable of bestowing the requisite attention upon a greater number of dinners which his refined style of cookery necessitated. However, on the 5th of July, 1850, Mons. Guerrier received his appointment as *chef*, and his predecessor retired with a magnificent testimonial penned by the Chairman of the Committee, Lord Marcus Hill.

I must not omit to record that in the month of February, 1847, Soyer proceeded to Dublin at the special request of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, to superintend the erection, by subscription, of a model kitchen for the poor in that capital. For this purpose, he obtained extra leave of absence from the Committee of the REFORM CLUB, up to April 1st. On the 28th of September, appeared a letter in *The Times* written by him on the subject of the model kitchen. Alexis Soyer died in London on the 5th of August, 1858. This brief biographical notice comprehends all that is worthy of mention so far as this cook's connection with the REFORM CLUB is concerned. But those who are interested in the matter will find in the British Museum Library a complete set of his works.

Let us now, for a brief space, revisit GWYDYR HOUSE.

Upon the 31st of May, 1839, Mr. Ellice, ever anxious to promote the welfare and to perfect the arrangements of the CLUB, submitted for the inspection of the Committee a pattern suit of

livery for the servants. It consisted of a blue dress-coat, with silk velvet collar ; buff waistcoat, with round collar, and black plush breeches. This costume was approved on the same day. The livery now in use, in the evening, was decided upon some years ago. It is a black coat with blue plush breeches ; the waistcoat remains the same.

According to announcement the temporary CLUB-HOUSE was to be closed on the 21st of December, 1840. The men servants were to be sent to the new building on the 25th of January, 1841 ; but the female servants were not to move until further orders ; while the CLUB itself was to open on the 8th of that month. No sooner were these directions issued than they were countermanded. It was found impossible to carry them out ; as the scaffolding was still needed to enable the workmen to finish the interior decorations, especially of the hall. The Secretary was, therefore, on the 13th of December, instructed to see whether the apartments just then vacated by the CLARENCE CLUB, No. 12, Waterloo Place, could be obtained for a fortnight or three weeks. The terms being too high, four rooms were taken at the SALOPIAN COFFEE HOUSE, No. 41, Charing Cross, from December 29th, 1840, to January 21st, 1841, at a rent of £8 9s. per week, including fuel and allowance to the servants of the hotel. This house, now (1886) occupied by the HORSE GUARDS, is about to be demolished.

Meanwhile circulars of various descriptions were sent to members—and among these one respecting the letting of twenty chambers or bed-rooms on the third floor of the New CLUB-HOUSE, at a rent varying from £35 to £104 per annum, including sleeping apartments for private servants.

The completion of the Building was now being carried out with the utmost speed. On the 28th of January, Messrs. Wyatt & Co., cement manufacturers, promised that by February 6th, the whole of the scagliola work on the ground floor would be finished, with the exception of the polishing. About this time Mr. George Rennie, junr., protested against Barry's decision to colour the frieze round the Library, now the Smoking Room :—"because," he said, "it would destroy " all the picturesque beauty of one of the finest compositions of Phidias, for the avowed object of " giving an apparent increased height to a room sufficiently lofty."

In the midst of all this the Committee met frequently, and on the 23rd of January, 1841, decided that the servants should take possession of the NEW HOUSE, on February 1st, and the members on the Monday, March 1st, 1841. Among the various suggestions, it was proposed by Sir George Stephen, to give a fancy Ball, on the opening day ; this, however, was negatived by a large majority. A week had barely elapsed before Sir Benjamin Hall, M.P., addressed the following letter to the Committee of the REFORM CLUB :—

“ 65, Wimpole Street,

“ 3rd March, 1841.

“ GENTLEMEN,—If the Club will accept a bust of Her Majesty, and place it in the great “ saloon of the new Club-House, I shall have much pleasure in ordering one to be executed in

“marble ; and as it will necessarily be some months before the work is completed, I will fill the
“space (that I propose shall hereafter be occupied by the marble bust) with a cast.

“I have, &c.,

“BENJAMIN HALL.”

The patriotic offer, it is needless to add, was promptly accepted with thanks ; and on the 19th of December, of that year, the same gentleman wrote that the promised bust, executed by John Francis, was ready. Sir Benjamin requested, in his letter, that the effigy of Her Majesty should be placed on the slab facing the “entrance door and near the glass, fixed between the Grand
“Saloon and the Coffee Room.” The request was carried out.

Shortly after the opening of the CLUB the Bude Light, just patented, was tried, experimentally, but with little success, in the Morning Room on the 18th of March, 1841.

About this time the entrance fee was raised from £20 to £25. On the 6th of January, 1842, it was ordered that “henceforth the supply of snuff to the members of the Club, be discontinued.”

The time having arrived for the Committee to ascertain the cost of the building, furniture and fittings, exclusive of remuneration for the Architect and the Clerk of the Works, Barry wrote on the 11th of March, 1841, that “according to the best calculation he was then able to make, the sum
“expended amounts to about £73,000, but that it would be impossible to state it with precision, as
“the accounts had not been made out ;” and, he added, “that the Finance Committee should take
“a margin of about £3,000 or £4,000, and assume the gross total to be from £76,000 to £77,000,
“of this £47,113 had been already disbursed.”

Decided steps were now taken for raising a sum of £17,000. It was evident that an appeal must be made to the members of the CLUB, and the matter, therefore, became the special subject of discussion at meetings held in the month of May and June of 1841. It would be tedious to enumerate the various proposals made for accomplishing the above object ; and to relate how cordially the invitations to subscribe were responded to. Among the suggestions, the only practical ones were, first that debentures bearing five per cent. interest be issued. Second that each member be asked to subscribe £3 3s. for five years, with the option of commuting the additional subscription for the single payment of £12 12s. ; and lastly that all those concerned should be invited to lend £12, at five per cent. interest, in debentures. The result of this is well worthy of notice. In a very short time the loan was secured, by the adoption of the original proposal.

The collecting, by the architect, of the various and necessarily complicated accounts from the different firms employed in carrying on the building operations, appears to have been a serious matter, and, indeed, a very perplexing one to Barry.

The Building Committee again wrote for the accounts on the 23rd of June—and the answer received was read in May, of the following year, to the effect that the “Furniture, Fixtures and
“all the miscellaneous charges would not exceed £82,000.” This did not include the architect’s fees.

The charge of this latter item led to an exciting controversy. The reader must here be referred to the agreement made, on July 26th, 1837, when the sum of £1,689, had been fixed as the remuneration to the successful competitor. Barry now claimed—and with justice—a larger amount, which according to some members of the Committee seemed exorbitant. The majority of the members, however, prevailed upon their colleagues to make the following minute: “that the Committee was willing to discuss the matter.” The case was briefly this, as Barry wrote:—

“ July 31st, 1843.

“ . . . Upon this amount, £78,650 15s. 9d., exclusive of contingent expenses, I consider I am both legally and equitably entitled to the customary commission. First, because the design of the present building is wholly different from the design upon which the agreement in question was made, and the expenditure upon it is more than double the amount originally proposed. 2ndly, because no subsequent agreement was concluded between the Club and myself. 3rdly, because the labour and responsibility which I have incurred in respect of the building and furnishing of the Club-House, have been greater than those which usually devolve upon the architect under ordinary circumstances.”

The correspondence between the two parties continued for some months longer, until it was agreed to submit the matter to Sir Thomas Wild, M.P., and Mr. Charles Crompton, both of whom refused to interfere. This occurred in November, 1843. In the meantime Barry wrote, on December 29th, 1843:—“ I am now anxious for a settlement.” The reply sent, dated April 16th, 1844, was:—“ The Committee desire to refer all questions between you and the Club to the arbitration of Lord Colborne, Lord Sudeley and Mr. Vivian, or to some unprofessional gentlemen to be agreed upon by both parties.” To which Barry replied:—

“ April 26th, 1844.

“ The question is a single one, it is merely whether in the agreement to design and carry into effect a Club-House upon a given expenditure of £36,000, for the sum of £1,689, there is anything that binds me either legally or morally to fulfil the additional or professional duties required, in designing or carrying into effect a work of such magnitude and elaboration as the present Club-House, involving an expenditure of above £80,000.” That this sum was not extravagant may be gathered from a detailed Report, which estimated the property of the CLUB, at no less than £93,568, in 1843.

At the General Meeting held on May 1st, 1844, the question was fully discussed, when it was agreed: “ That the whole case should be referred to a barrister of known character, and that the award should be final.”

Mr., afterwards Sir William Erle, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas—and not a Member of the REFORM CLUB—was, with the consent of both parties, appointed arbitrator, on the 10th of May. Towards the end of June, Mr. Coppock reported that he had prepared the deed of arbitration, and on the 30th of August, the Secretary laid before the Committee, Mr. Erle’s

decision, which was as follows :—" That I do award, order and determine that there is now due " and owing from the Reform Club to Charles Barry the sum of £2,243 for the services of the " said Charles Barry in designing and superintending the erection of the Reform Club with " fittings, &c." And the amount was directed to be paid before the 1st of November ensuing. It was then resolved, by the Committee :—" That a cheque for £2,243 be forthwith drawn " and forwarded to the Trustees for signature, and, as soon as completed, be placed in Mr. Barry's " hand by the Secretary."

It would seem that the case should naturally have ended here, but it was not so. Mr. Ellice wrote on the 30th of September :—" I will sign the cheque after the two Trustees have done so, " because it is Mr. Erle's award, which I have no doubt is right, although it is distinctly opposed " to what was the meaning and intention of the parties who negotiated with the architect, and of " whom I was one."

The Earl of Radnor, another Trustee, advocated deferring payment, but the Committee stepped in, and in justice to Barry, resolved, on the 11th of October :—" That it is incumbent " upon the Committee forthwith to make arrangements for the immediate liquidation of the debt " due to Mr. Barry, for which purpose the offer of the following gentlemen, Lord Marcus Hill, " Martin Thackeray, Esq., W. Gordon Thomson, Esq., Osmond de Beauvoir Prialx, Esq., who " undertake to guarantee to the Bankers the sum due to Mr. Barry, be accepted with thanks— " that they make arrangements with the bankers of the Club for its immediate payment and " that the Committee will bear them harmless from any loss."

The cheque was duly received. Mr. Coppock then wrote to the Committee as follows :—" I " have this day taxed the costs of Mr. Barry at £81 6s. 8d., and Mr. Erle's charge for his award is " £25 10s. together with £106 16s. 8d., which I must pay to Mr. Barry's solicitor. Have the " goodness to send me a cheque for that amount." As might be expected, this episode, in the history of the CLUB, did not escape the notice of certain newspapers ; among them *The John Bull*, whose article (October 12th) quoted below, was reproduced in *The Times* of 14th October, 1844.

" REFORM PROSPECTS AND REPUDIATION.

" That ' White House ' in Pall Mall, once, in the palmy days of Melbourne's reign, the " rendezvous of Whigs, Whig-Rads, Rads, Ultra-Rads, Chartists, *et hoc genus omne*—the so-called " Italian Palace ; and a hundred other fine names, which we have forgotten, but better known as " the Reform Club, is evidently suffering the blight of the barren shade of opposition ; and, for want " of the sinews of war, is, we hear, fast hurrying to that bourne (a violent death beneath the relentless " hammer of George Robins) from which no departed property ever returns. It is well known " that this concern has, for some years past, been lingering out a rickety existence, and has lived " entirely upon the reputation of its club-house (we do not, of course, mean the reputation of " its occupants), and the supposed reputation of its enormously puffed culinary department,—the

“ produce of which, by the way, though of the most ordinary description, when *Frenchified* or
 “ *Italianized*, passes for something *recherché* amongst men whose station in society, by the accident
 “ of birth, has entitled them, with a fifteenpenny qualification, to the *entrées* of Williams’s boiled
 “ beef-house in the Old Bailey, Hancock’s eating-house in Rupert Street, or Upton’s ditto in the
 “ Strand. The thing, however, has got stale,—the novelty of the club-house has passed away,
 “ like all chance of the return of its party to power, and its occupants begin to think with Byron,

“ ‘There’s nothing certain ’mongst the human race,
 “ ‘Except the Whigs not getting into place.’

“ The members of the Club have fast decreased in number, and, as a natural consequence, its
 “ revenue. Taking a leaf from Sir Robert’s book, additional taxation has been tried, but not with
 “ the like success, and the Club now enjoys the advantages of an increased, and increasing
 “ enormous debt, secured only, we believe, upon an unwieldy building, which George Robins
 “ positively declared he could not *knock down* for £30,000 ‘with all its flummery.’

“ Well,—these Whig-Radicals, always famous for shabby expedients when hard pressed, have
 “ hit upon a scheme to lighten the burden; being ardent admirers of Yankee institutions and
 “ notions, they have adopted the complete system of Pennsylvanian repudiation, and ‘quite slick’
 “ repudiate—what?—the washerwoman’s bill? No—washerwomen are short-winded and clamorous
 “ creditors. What then?—the tailor’s bill? No, Moses and Son ‘*do all for ready monish.*’ The
 “ milkwoman’s bill? No—milkwomen get sour and disagreeable as *krout*, if the score is not
 “ forthcoming every Monday morning. What then? Why they actually *repudiate* the claim of
 “ Mr. Barry for his professional charge, for rearing their Club-house (the reputation of which, as a
 “ building, has been instrumental in keeping the thing hitherto in existence), contenting themselves
 “ with the comfortable reflection that he ought to be satisfied with the payment of a little more
 “ than one-third of the usual professional charge, which in the exuberance of their liberality they
 “ paid him on account. Mr. Barry, not much relishing this Anglo-Pennsylvanian mode of
 “ financing, and not feeling at all disposed to compromise his high professional character by
 “ the acceptance of about 2 per cent. on the amount of the work executed by him, and after
 “ having submitted to all manner of shuffling excuses for non-payment, felt it a duty, not less to
 “ himself than to the members of the profession of which he is so great an ornament, to adopt
 “ legal measures to enforce his claim, and it will be equally interesting and gratifying, not only to
 “ the profession but to any *practically* liberal patron of the arts, to learn, that the matter having
 “ recently come before a legal tribunal, the result has been, much to the discredit and discomfiture
 “ of Mr. Barry’s liberal friends and patrons, the *Repudiators*, the award to Mr. Barry of the full
 “ amount of his well-earned claim, with the whole costs of bringing them to ‘book up’ (as the
 “ Rev. Sydney Smith advised the Pennsylvanians) the amount which has been so scurvily and
 “ unjustly withheld from him. Oh, these Repudiators!”

This article was promptly answered by the Secretary of the CLUB.

“ To the Editor of *The Times*.

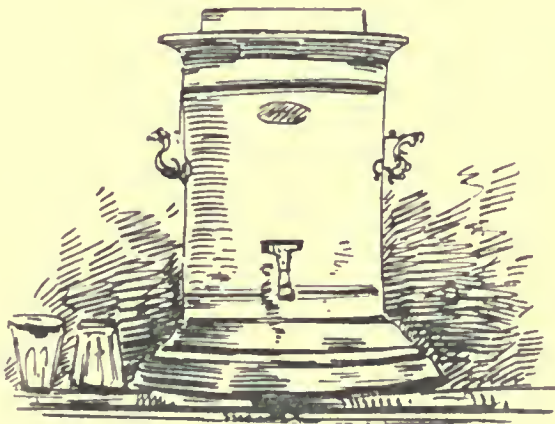
“ SIR,—I am directed by the Committee of the Reform Club to give the most unqualified contradiction to an article copied into *The Times* of Monday last from a Sunday newspaper. I am desired further to add, that the finances of the Reform Club are in a perfectly satisfactory state, and that Mr. Barry’s claim has been finally settled by arbitration and paid. The members are more numerous than they have been since the formation of the Club.

“ I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,

“ WILLIAM H. BOND.

“ Pall Mall, Oct. 15, 1844.”

In this same year, the Secretary of the REFORM CLUB, Mr. Walter Scott, resigned his appointment. On the 21st of May it was therefore moved by Mr. David R. Ross and seconded by Mr. Panizzi, that the “House-Committee be requested to receive the applications and testimonials of candidates for the office of Secretary, and to report thereon to the General Committee.” Whereupon, on the 11th of June, Lord Palmerston moved that Mr. W. H. Bond be appointed Secretary.



CHAPTER VII.

THE ceremonial opening of the Royal Exchange, on the 28th of October, 1844, was made, by her Majesty's subjects, the opportunity of a loyal demonstration, in the west end of London. Four days before the event the COMMITTEE of the REFORM CLUB directed that the HOUSE should be illuminated on the evening of the 28th, and that ladies be invited to view the procession as it passed along Pall Mall. A cold collation was also provided for the lady guests.

The only incident of any interest, in the domestic history of the CLUB during this and the following year, was Barry's proposal for altering the small Smoking Room, which was discussed at a Committee meeting held in November, 1845. It was also deemed advisable that a rail should be fixed at the front entrance, on each side of the steps, but this latter order was not carried out until 1853.

The year 1846, is noted for the banquet given to Ibrahim Pacha, whose visit to London created considerable stir among politicians. Mehemet Ali, said to have been the father of Ibrahim, was the regenerator of modern Egypt, which country he wrested from the Sultan. He was born in 1768. In his earlier years he was a tobacco dealer, and was thirty years old or more, before he definitely entered upon his military career. Ibrahim owed his high rank and position, not only to the fact that he was heir to the hereditary Pachalic of Egypt, but also to his military reputation and achievements. As Mehemet's lieutenant, he executed his orders with skill and courage. His name throughout Syria was a "word of fear;" yet his conduct in the field was distinguished by a humanity rare, if not unknown, in eastern lands, where wars have usually borne their cruellest and most horrible aspects. Neither Mehemet nor Ibrahim ever incurred the charge of wantonly delighting in blood. Born at Cavalla, Rumelia, in 1789, Ibrahim Pacha distinguished himself first in the war in Hejaz, against the Wahabites. He was then under the command of Toussoum, who died of the plague, at the camp of Damanhour, in 1816, when he was scarcely twenty years of age. Ibrahim, on succeeding to the command, defeated the Wahabites in several encounters; took Mecca and Medina; and re-established the regular course of the caravans. At the death of his brother, Yussuf Pacha, in 1819, Ibrahim was universally recognised as Mehemet Ali's prospective successor in the government of Egypt. In the year 1821, the duty

of suppressing the Greek insurrection, was assigned to the Egyptian Pacha by the Sultan—and Ibrahim took charge of the fleet and sailed to the Morea. After various successful and most sanguinary encounters, which Ibrahim had with the Greeks, during the years 1822-1826, he doubtless would have subjugated them had not Europe interfered. The three allied Powers, England, France and Russia, prompted by the eloquence and statesmanship of George Canning—whose Premiership began and closed in 1827—sent a combined fleet to the Archipelago, for the purpose of liberating Greece from her Mahometan invaders. The ships met in the Greek seas in the month of August, 1827, and on October 20th of that year fought the Battle of Navarino. The allied fleet was under the command of Vice-Admiral Sir Edward Codrington.* The Turkish Navy was almost annihilated, “an untoward event,” as the Duke of Wellington called it. However, be this as it may, the affair gave birth to the sovereign independence of Greece. It would occupy too much space to give an account of Ibrahim’s march from Syria towards Constantinople in 1832—the chief feat of his military career; or of his capture of Acre, which gave the temporary supremacy of Syria to Egypt; or, indeed, of any of the important achievements which fully entitled the gallant soldier to be received as a guest of the members of the REFORM CLUB, on the 3rd of July, 1846. On this occasion a magnificent and sumptuous banquet was given to Ibrahim “as a mark of respect to a stranger, illustrious alike for his talents and his position, and to do special honour to him, for the facilities afforded to the English traffic during the events in Syria and for the improvements which had been effected by him and his father in Egypt.” The Banquet was attended by two hundred members of the CLUB. The only guests invited to meet his Highness were the Chargé d’Affaires of the Ottoman Empire, who was accompanied by the Consul-General M. Zohrab, and the Secretary Edib Effendi. The capacity of the CLUB-HOUSE, was for the first time, since its erection, tested to its fullest extent: never did the architect’s design appear to better advantage.

The compliment thus paid was greatly enhanced by the fact that the invitation was conveyed through Sir Charles Napier; it need hardly be said that it was promptly and warmly accepted. The beautiful hall and gallery were crowded with ladies. On the Pacha’s arrival the band of the Scotch Fusiliers Foot Guards played the Sultan’s March, and during the dinner, some of the favourite Turkish airs.

Soyer greatly distinguished himself. To use his own words, “he had full scope to do honour to the banquet.” The following was his Bill of Fare:—

SEIZE POTAGES.

Quatre à la Victoria.
Quatre à la Comte de Paris.

Quatre à la Louis Philippe.
Quatre à la Colbert, aux Légumes Printaniers.

SEIZE POISSONS.

Quatre de Turbots, Sauce à la Mazarin.
Quatre de Buissons de Filets de Merlans à l’Egyptienne.

Quatre de Saumons de Severn à la Crème.
Quatre de Truites Saumonées en Matelote Marinière.

* He was one of the original members of the Reform Club.

SEIZE RELEVÉS.

Quatre de Chapons à la Nelson.
Quatre de Saddleback de Southdown Mouton,
rôti à la Soyer.

Quatre de Poulardes en Diadème.
Quatre de Saddleback d'Agneau, rôti à la Sévigné.
Baron of Beef à l'Anglaise.

Entrée Pagodatique de riz à la Luxor.

CINQUANTE-QUATRE ENTRÉES.

Six de Poussins Printaniers à l'Ambassadrice.
Six de Côtelettes de Mouton à la Reform.
Quatre de Riz de Veau piqués en Macedoine de
Légumes.
Quatre de Petits Vol-au-vents aux Laitances de
Maquereaux.
Quatre de Timballes de Riz aux Queues d'Agneau.
Quatre de Jambonneaux Braisés au Vin de Madère.

Quatre de Volailles Farcies à la Russe aux Légumes
Verts.
Quatre de Pâtés Chauds de Cailles à la Banquière.
Quatre de Rissollettes à la Pompadour.
Quatre de Grenadins de Bœuf à la Beyrout.
Six de Côtelettes d'Agneau à la Vicomtesse, et
Quatre de Turbans Epigramme de Levreau au
Fumet.

SEIZE RÔTS.

Quatre de Turkey Poul.
Piqués et Bardés

Quatre de Canetons au Jus de Bigarades.
Quatre de Levreaux au Jus de Groseilles, et

Quatre de Gros Chapons au Cresson.

CINQUANTE-QUATRE ENTREMETS.

Six de Gelées Macédoine de Fruits au Dantzic.
Quatre Turbans de Meringues Demi-Glacées.
Quatre de Charlotte Prussienne.
Six de Croquantes d'Amandes aux Cerises.
Quatre de Galantines à la Volière.
Quatre de Mirotons de Homard à l'Indienne.

Quatre de Salades de Volaille à la Soyer.
Quatre de Haricots Verts au Beurre Noisette.
Six de Tartelettes Pralines aux Abricots.
Quatre de Pain de Pêches au Noyeau.
Quatre de Petits Pois à l'Anglo-Français, et
Quatre de Gelées Cristallisées à l'Ananas.

RELEVÉS DE RÔTS.

Crème d'Egypte à l'Ibrahim Pacha.
Gâteau Britannique à l'Amiral.
Quatre de Jabous Glaces en Surprise.

Quatre de Côtelettes en Surprise à la Reform.
Quatre de Manivaux de Champignons au Curaçao en
Surprise.

Deux de Meringues Chinoises-Pagoda aux Fraises.

But the curiosity of the *menu* was the *Crème d'Egypte à l'Ibrahim Pacha*, invented expressly for the occasion. Soyer's novel production challenged the admiration of the whole company, and especially of the Pacha, who certainly felt flattered by the attentions of the *chef*, who was no less illustrious in the art of cookery than Ibrahim was in the art of war, and who, most probably, was not unconscious of the fact. The dish consisted of a pyramid about two feet and a half high, made of light meringue cake, in imitation of solid stones, surrounded with immense grapes and other fruits, but representing only the three angles of the pyramid through sheets of waved sugar, to show to the greatest advantage, a cream à l'ananas, on the summit of which stood a likeness of Mehemet Ali, drawn on a round-shaped satin *carton*. The portrait was immediately recognised by his Highness, who took it up, and, after showing it to several of his suite, placed it in his bosom.

Ibrahim's next surprise was when he perceived under a glass a highly finished portrait of himself, inclosed in a frame. Soyer having been sent for by the party, was highly complimented

by the guest, who expressed himself anxious to know how such a perfect likeness of his father had been produced, and how his own was so correctly drawn in the cream. The reply was, that they had been copied from Horace Vernet's drawings executed in Alexandria. The head on the cream was delineated on wafer-paper, which being placed on the damp jelly representing the glass, dissolved, so that nothing remained of the paper but the appearance of the water-colour drawing. The imitation of the gilt frame was made with *eau-de-vie* of Dantzic and gold water mixed with jelly, the gold leaf of which formed the frame. Though as good for food as it was pleasant to the eye, this *chef d'œuvre* of Soyer's art remained untouched until the end of the banquet.

Another dish was the *Gâteau Britannique à l'Amiral*. It represented an old man-of-war, bearing the English and Egyptian flags, drawn on rice paper, the ship being filled with ice *mousseuse aux pêche*, and loaded with strawberries, cherries, grapes and bunches of currants. It fell to Commodore Napier to help the illustrious stranger to some of the contents of the ship's cargo. The performance amused Ibrahim. As the ice in this unique preparation melted it absorbed the solid-seeming hull of the man-of-war, which indeed was constructed of nothing stronger than sponge cake. As the gallant sailor was in the act of helping the remainder of the ice, the vessel collapsed into wreck—to the company's lively amusement.

The cloth having been removed, and *Non nobis Domine* sung by Mr. Jolly and a party of glee singers, the Chairman rose and proposed the usual loyal toasts, which were drunk with thrice three cheers. In proposing the toast of the evening he begged that all would fill their glasses to what was called an Irish bumper. Here is Sir Charles Napier's speech:—

“ It was unnecessary to call the attention of the members of the Reform Club to the services
 “ rendered to the cause of Reform by their illustrious guest and his father. That father was
 “ a most extraordinary man—(cheers)—and the services he had rendered to his country were beyond
 “ all appreciation. As to their guest that evening, every gentleman present must have read the
 “ account of the wars in the East, and they well knew the gallantry which their honoured guest had
 “ at all times displayed. (Cheers.) They had no business to enter into the policy of the wars in
 “ which he had embarked, but whether the policy of those wars was right or wrong, their
 “ illustrious guest did right to obey the orders he had received. (Cheers.) He had proved
 “ himself a great soldier, and his plans had been attended with great success. But he had another
 “ and perhaps higher qualification,—much as he was to be praised in war, he was in peace an
 “ eminent agriculturist. (Cheers.) During a time of peace he had governed Syria with great
 “ honour, and he had cultivated the arts and sciences, and had promoted the progress of
 “ agriculture, which he had followed with such energy as to be wholly unexampled. (Cheers.)
 “ He had also established order within his dominions, he had put down robbers, and European
 “ travellers now traversed freely not only Syria, but all parts of his dominions. (Cheers.) In all
 “ the improvements which Mehemet Ali had introduced, he had received willing co-operation from
 “ their illustrious guest. After all their quarrels in the East, his Highness had been received
 “ by the people of this country in a way which was, he believed, pleasant and agreeable. (Cheers.)

“ Still the honour of the first public entertainment had been reserved for the Reform Club, and he
“ was sure that when he returned to his own country he would tell his illustrious father how well
“ he had been received in this country and that this would be taken as a kind of repayment for
“ the kind attention ever shown to Englishmen in Egypt, whether in peace or war. (Loud cheers.)
“ For he must allude to what all knew, that even when war raged in the East, the treaty with the
“ Ottoman empire was held inviolate, and not a letter from our eastern possessions was opened.
“ (Great cheering and cries of ‘No Graham in Egypt.’) The Pacha of Egypt has thus shown an
“ example worthy the imitation of all European Powers for the manner in which he had conducted
“ that unhappy war. Without further preface he would propose ‘The health of their illustrious
“ ‘guest, long life and prosperity to him, and might he carry the experience he had gained in this
“ ‘country to the improvement of Egypt.’ ” (Loud cheers.)

Ibrahim Pacha then returned thanks, and said :—“ He was gratified with the honour which
“ had been done to him, and he felt most deeply the reception he had met with in that club and in
“ the country.” (Cheers.)

Viscount Palmerston next rose to propose “the health of Mehemet Ali and prosperity to
“ Egypt. (Loud cheers.) He had been truly a great reformer and a great agriculturist in Egypt,
“ and he hoped he might add, that though he was an agriculturist he was not a protectionist.
“ (Cheers.) He was a man most remarkable in the age in which he lived : by the force of his
“ own genius, by the strength of his own character, by his enterprise, his perseverance, and his
“ sagacity, he had raised himself to a post of the highest eminence, and he had diffused civilization
“ and had established order in a country which he had found immersed in darkness and influenced
“ by prejudice. (Cheers.) He proposed this toast with the greater pleasure, because, as a
“ Minister of, if not the late, at least a late, Administration—(laughter)—he had been called upon in
“ performance of his duty as a servant of the Crown, and as a Minister of the country—following
“ what he and his colleagues believed to be their public duty, in the maintenance of the balance
“ of power in Europe, and in the maintenance of the public peace, taking a long view of things—
“ to take steps which might appear hostile to Mehemet Ali. He was glad to say that the conduct
“ of Mehemet Ali did great honour to him, and all that regarded his relations towards this
“ country. (Cheers.) For though things had passed which were calculated to irritate him, he
“ had not shown, on his side, towards British subjects or British interests—which circumstances
“ had placed for a time in his power—anything but the conduct of the most generous foe.
“ (Great cheering.) He trusted that we should now have him as the faithful ally of our interests,
“ as he had been our most generous opponent.” (Cheers.) He said “that he gave the toast with
“ greater pleasure, because, with the help of Mehemet Ali, he coupled it with the prosperity of
“ Egypt, satisfied that the past was effaced from the memory of Mehemet Ali, and that, as the
“ English people desired sincere friendship and peace and commercial relations with him, so he, on
“ the other hand, would know that he need entertain no jealousy towards this country. The
“ relations between Egypt and England were equally advantageous to both countries ; the



“prosperity of Egypt could not but contribute to the advantage of this country. (Cheers.)
 “Mehemet Ali had a worthy representative in the illustrious guest they had associated there to
 “honour, and it redounded to his great credit that whatever personal inconvenience it might put
 “him to, he had resolved to visit foreign lands, to see the institutions and the manners and the
 “commercial arrangements of other countries, and to add to his own wisdom the experience of the
 “energy, the talent, and the labours of other climes ; and he was sure that the recollections which
 “his illustrious guest would have of the people of this country—the remembrance of what he had
 “seen of their national energies, their independence of spirit, the energy and activity displayed in
 “every part of the country would have a powerful effect upon his mind, and, through the
 “representations which he made, a no less powerful effect on the opinions of his illustrious father.
 “(Loud cheers.) He therefore wished to show the sound and decisive opinion of the English
 “people, and to be the faithful interpreter of their wishes when he proposed, with all sincerity,
 “what he believed to be the general feeling of that meeting and of the country, ‘Health and long
 “‘life to Mehemet Ali, and continued prosperity to Egypt.’” (Great cheering.)

The Pacha (through his interpreter) returned thanks in the warmest manner for the compliment they had paid to his father and to the country of his birth. (Cheers.) The prosperity of Egypt was what was nearest to his heart, and he trusted that the close alliance between England and Egypt would conduce to the prosperity of each.

The Pacha’s brief address was delivered in the most animated manner, and with much feeling.

Other speeches by Mr. D. D. Ross, the Turkish Chargé d’Affaires, followed, and then the chairman proposed the Health of Her Majesty’s Ministers, when Viscount Palmerston replied :—
 “That he trusted the Ministers would receive the support of the people to those measures of
 “progressive reform with which their existence was identified. (Cheers.) It was with no small
 “satisfaction that they had seen the measures for which they had been turned out of office carried
 “by the late ministry. (Cries of ‘Mr. Cobden.’) He referred to the exertions of all commercial
 “reformers when he declared that those measures which had been contumeliously rejected were the
 “very measures on which Her Majesty’s present advisers now accepted office. (Cheers.) And
 “while he asked the support of reformers, which they so much needed, he trusted the measures
 “would be such as to merit the approbation of every commercial and political reformer.”

This was considered one of the best and most notable entertainments which any club ever gave.



CHAPTER VIII.

DURING 1847-1848 a false rumour was for the second time circulated—and found acceptance in some quarters—to the effect that the finances of the REFORM CLUB were in an unsatisfactory condition. A printed statement was consequently issued to members, bearing date November 2nd, 1849, and showing that since 1843 the finances showed a balance to the good of £16,672, 12s. 9d., of which £5,000 had been paid to the debenture account.

The summer of 1847 opened gloomily. To advert to the domestic history of the CLUB, Daniel O'Connell, one of the founders of the WESTMINSTER and REFORM CLUBS, died in that year. In spring his health failed him and he sought relief in a kindlier climate. While on his way to Rome, he was suddenly seized with his last illness, and expired at Genoa, on the 15th of May. The news no sooner reached London, than his club friends opened a subscription to purchase a full length portrait of the great Irish agitator. In addition to this a cast of a bust,* by John E. Jones, was presented to the CLUB, and placed in a niche, in the south-east corner of the upper gallery.

Mr. O'Connell, a member of the Committee, was elected to that post on May 5th, 1836, but he did not attend until March 14th, 1837.

In consequence of the coercive measures, adopted by her Majesty's Government, to enforce payment of certain claims and demands, which had been for some time outstanding in Greece, difficulties of no small magnitude arose. The complication was rendered all the more unpleasant by the interference of France and Russia. The origin of the *imbroglio* was an outrage perpetrated on the property of one Don Pacifico, a Jew, a native of Gibraltar and hence a British subject. His house was pillaged by a mob, headed by the two sons of the Greek Minister of War, without any attempt being made by the authorities of Athens to protect the unfortunate individual. Lord Palmerston made this event a national question. He had ruled the Foreign Office for four years and during that time he had displayed an activity and decision of which Foreign Ministers had rarely given proof. However, to return to the Don Pacifico difficulty, it happened that on December 3rd, 1849, Lord Palmerston notified, formally, to her Majesty's Minister at Athens,

* The original, in marble, was exhibited at the Royal Academy, in 1844. No. 1380 of the Catalogue.



that the end of British forbearance had arrived. A fleet was despatched to Athens. The claims made upon the Greek Government were still unsatisfied ; they had the moral support of France and Russia. Ultimately the Greeks were brought to terms. Condemned in the Upper House, Lord Palmerston's policy was a second time victorious in the House of Commons, where it was approved of by a majority of forty-six votes. The Liberal Party, rejoicing over this triumph, signified its esteem and respect for his lordship's private and public character, by presenting to Lady Palmerston a full-length portrait, painted by Partridge, of her distinguished husband. A deputation of nearly ninety Members of Parliament, headed by Lord James Stuart, waited on her ladyship, on June 22nd, 1850, and presented her with the gift and an accompanying address. Doubtless this must have been a very gratifying compliment to his lordship, but it was soon followed by another of equal if not greater significance. On July 5th, 1850, the Committee of the REFORM CLUB, unanimously resolved that the Palmerstonian victory should be celebrated by the members of the CLUB. A banquet therefore took place in the Coffee Room, on July 20th of that year. The façade of the building was illuminated as brilliantly as it would have been on an occasion of public importance. The hall, the galleries, and the rooms were adorned with exotic plants, and the display of plate in the banquet room was very profuse. The band of the Coldstream Guards was in attendance, under the direction of Mr. Godfrey, and, during dinner, performed the overture of "Leonora," by Beethoven ; "Valse d'Amour," by Kœnig ; "Alma," by Costa ; "Les Huguenots," arranged by Jullien, etc. The *cuisine* was under the management of Mr. Butler, the proprietor of the London Tavern. Mr. Harker was toastmaster and Mr. Hobbs directed the vocal music.



The chair was taken by Mr. Ralph Bernal Osborne, M.P. for Middlesex. The following is a list of those who were present at the banquet :—Lord Palmerston, Lord Sudeley, Lord James Stuart, Lord Ebrington, The Right Hon. C. T. D'Eyncourt, Sir Charles Napier, Lord Marcus Hill, R. J. Blewitt, Colonel Freestun, James Matheson, A. S. Adair, Baron Rothschild, Sir J. M. J. Cholmeley, Sir Henry Webb, Sir G. Strickland, H. W. Tancred, M. O'Connell, M. T. Bass, R. Etwall, J. Locke, W. Collins, Sir W. Gibson Craig, Sir De Lacy Evans, the Attorney General, Hon. W. F. Cowper, Lord Camoys, Lord Yarborough, the Solicitor General, E. K. Tenison, Sir R. Price, Hon. C. Clements, W. M. Thackeray, P. Mahony, W. Greig, A. Hastie, A. Panizzi, J. Pilkington, Hon. W. Brown, J. Dillon, A. Matheson, Colonel Salwey, C. T. Granger, Mr. Sergeant Murphy, W. Jackson, J. Parkes, J. O'Brien, Sir J. Walmsley, W. Williams, W. Coulson, R. Hollond, C. Romilly, J. T. Wasey, D. Morris, M. Forster, J. Macgregor, N. Macdonald, J. P. Somers, J. M. Williams, T. Wakley, Lord D. C. Stuart, L. Heyworth, R. M. Bellew, J. A. Yates, J. Auldjo, D. J. Bischoff, W. M. James, Sir J. McTaggart, C. S. Ricketts, R. Greaves, J. I. Travers, J. Clay, Dr. Elmore, G. W. Edwards, R. Perfect, J. B. Carter, G. Pryme, E. E. Crowe, John Ball, P. Jones, H. Ingram, F. Scully, G. H. T. D'Eyncourt, J. E. Blunt, J. W. Wilcocks, T. B. Hobhouse, J. Sadleir, Rev. L. B. Foster, E. McSwiney, A. Symonds, E. James, J. C. Morice, T. Phinn, R. Smith, Sir J. Hare, H. Marshall, Sir R. W. Clayton, T. H. Riches, P. Finch, H. Love, J. R. Gardiner, T. L. Murray, Captain Maher, S. Amory, J. Montgomery, J. Coppock, W. Ford, H. I. Cameron, R. Dickson, W. Sim, R. Cassidy, B. Hawes, W. S. Potter, A. Barker, D. Salomons, H. Perkins, W. Krautler, H. Dann, C. Hoggins, J. A. Chowne, Sir J. Easthorpe, J. H. Browne, J. Smith, J. A. Hardcastle, B. Combe, C. Lee, J. L. Clayton, S. Dunning, T. N. Allen, E. Kinnersly, A. Robinson, J. Locke, Captain Mereweather, J. Hardcastle, W. Finnelly, J. H. Mills, B. E. Kennedy, M. Young, Rev. H. Cholmondeley, W. Lister, J. Hutchinson, G. Fielder, C. Richardson, S. Laing, J. H. Dillon, A. Hudson, W. E. Lowes, J. D. Sympton, M. Forster, H. Vyse, J. Hibbert, T. Muir, T. N. Farquhar, S. Thorrowgood, C. Santa-Maria, John Robertson, R. E. Norman, N. Lockyer, G. Gyll, J. S. Stock, C. P. Roney, J. E. Taylor, W. D. Cooper, W. Neve, P. A. Hughes, R. Bell, J. P. Fearon, F. H. Goldsmid, W. Mackenzie, J. Macleod, D. Davidson, T. C. Banfield, H. S. Tremeneheere, W. G. Thompson, W. Williams, J. H. Palmer, C. Szulczewski, A. Goldsmid, jun., S. Harford, W. Heathcote, H. Martineau, J. P. Ley, H. Shield, B. Oliviera, W. M. Sowton, A. Travers, J. Reade, J. R. Todd, F. Vilmet, C. S. Thomas, M. Uzielli and A. K. Watson.

The *menu* consisted of :—

PREMIER SERVICE.

Tortue Claire.

Tortue à l'Anglaise.

ENTRÉES DE TORTUE.

Calipée à la Financière.

Kari de Tortue à l'Indienne.

Pâté de Tortue en Matelote.

Vol-au-vent de Tortue au Gras.

Pâté de Tortue au Vin de Champagne.

Pâté de Tortue à la Villeroi.

P O I S S O N S .

Turbots Bouillis à la Sauce de Homard
 Saumon de Glo'ster Bouilli.
 Tranches de Saumon en Matelote.
 Saint Pierres à la Cardinal.

Matelotes de Soles à la Plessy.
 Eperlans Frits.
 Sauté de Merlans aux Gratin.
 Rougets à l'Italienne.

Saumon Piqué à la Financière.

E N T R É E S .

Filets de Levrauts Piqué à la Poivrade.
 Epigramme d'Agneau à la Purée de Pois Verts.
 Suprême de Volaille à la Écarlotte.
 Cailles à la Royale.
 Poules de Bruyère à la Bohémienne.

Fillets de Venaison Piqués aux Haricots Verts.
 Quenelles de Volaille à la Toulouse.
 Ris de Veau Piqué à la Napolitaine.
 Carbonardes de Mouton Piqué à la Nivernaise.
 Noix de Veau Piqués à l'Arlequin.

R E L E V É S .

Chapons à la Godard.
 Filet de Bœuf à la Napolitaine.
 Petits Poulets Rotis
 Quartiers d'Agneau Piqué à la Sauce aux Concombres
 Petits Poulets Braisés à l'Indienne.

Coté de Bœuf à la Macédoine.
 Oisons à la Chipolata.
 Poulardes Braisé à la Jardinière.
 Hanches de Venaison Rotis.
 Selles de Mouton Rotis.

Pâté Chaud à la Financière.

B U F F E T .

Potage à la Printanière.
 Jambons de Westphalie aux Haricots Verts.
 Langue de Bœuf aux Épinards.

Legumes.
 Petits Pâtés de Homard.
 Tourtes de Pommes.

Kari de Homard aux Ris.

S E C O N D S E R V I C E .

R Ô T .

Levrauts.
 Coqs de Bruyère.

Dindonneaux Piqués.
 Cailles.

Canetons.

E N T R E M E T S .

Salade à la Russe.
 Concombres Farci à la Maître d'Hôtel.
 Salade à la Hollandaise.
 Aspic de Crêtes et Rognons de Coq, garni d'une
 blanquette de Volaille.
 Gelée aux Fraises.
 Gelée de Cerises.
 Gelée au Citron.
 Gelée de Noyeau.
 Gelée Macédoine.

Gelée au Ponche.
 Crème de Curaçoa.
 Pain de Framboise.
 Crème aux Fraises.
 Suédoise d'Ananas.
 Suédoise de Pêches.
 Gâteau à la Victoria.
 Petits Gâteaux à la Célestine.
 Tartelettes de Cerises.
 Tartelettes de Grosscilles.

P L A T S D E F R U I T .

Vol-au-vent de Pêches.
 Fanchonnettes à la Vanille.

Tartelettes d'Abricots.
 Gâteau Napolitains.

Petits Choux à la d'Artois.

R E L E V É S D E R Ô T S .

Babas à la Polonaise.
 Babas en Surprise.
 Pudding à la Chesterfield.

Soufflés au Citron.
 Crème Parisienne Glacée au Fruit.
 Pudding à la Princesse.

Fondus au Fromage.

The cloth having been removed, the chairman suggested that, before proceeding to the after-dinner speeches, it would be desirable that the honours usually accompanying toasts should be omitted in all but two cases. Without further preface he began :—"I will come to the chartered toast of all English meetings—one that needs no encomium, because we are all convinced that the stability of the country rests upon the Queen. It is unnecessary for me to expatiate on the virtues of the woman ; we equally drink to the validity of the office. I give you without further preface, and with all the honours, 'The Queen, God bless her !'" The toast was drunk with great enthusiasm, and the singing of the National Anthem was frequently interrupted by applause, especially at the lines :—

" Confound their politics,
Frustrate their knavish tricks."

The chairman then said :—"Should I fail to do justice to the toast I am now about to propose, I can assure you it is not from underrating the importance of the occasion, still less from feeling any want of sympathy with my theme, but rather that I have been more accustomed to pass strictures on the collective acts of a Government than to pay compliments to an individual Minister. (Cheers.) But I should be wanting in that feeling of independence and candour which ought to characterise a representative of this great country—(hear, hear)—and the chairman of this great meeting—(hear, hear)—did I not on your part gladly seize the opportunity to express on your behalf our great satisfaction at being honoured with the presence of a Minister whose varied attainments and accomplishments, whose courtesy and mild bearing in private life, have won, not merely the applause of a party, but the respect and admiration of the civilized world. And, gentlemen, by your leave, I will take this opportunity to say that we may look upon this, not as a meeting important only in its political bearings, but for the moral views of the subject—(hear, hear)—because it will show to the world that the great Liberal party of this country, differing as they may in minor shades of opinion, are not prepared to see the Minister calumniated, or the man misrepresented. (Loud cheers.) Because he has been firm in his adherence to a Liberal course of policy—(hear, hear)—they will not carp at any minor or petty details ; they will remember that :—

" If severe in aught,
The love he bore to freedom was in fault."

(Loud cheers.) I, for one, rejoice that this question of foreign policy was brought before the Commons' House of Parliament. (Hear, hear.) I do so because I think it will show to other nations that the reasoning people of this country will not consent to sacrifice the principles of reform and natural progress because other people may have confounded anarchy with progress, and mistaken revolution for reform. (Cheers.) We are still prepared to walk in the paths of the Constitution and to urge those reforms which may be consonant with the times. (Cheers.) But I also rejoice that the noble Lord has been exposed to personal attacks and recrimination, because it has given to the world and to future ages that great intellectual effort—(hear, hear)—those enunciations of great truths—that lucid array of facts—and above all, that calm and

“ Christian-like forbearance from recrimination—(applause)—which will be handed to future ages as a monument of eloquence, to be studied by the philosopher and taken as a model by the statesman. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, it is not for me to offer any laboured panegyric upon the noble Lord. It has been reserved for one of the greatest and most favoured of modern writers to describe the greatest and most accomplished of modern statesmen :—

“ Warmed by the instincts of a knightly heart,
That roused at once if insult touched the realm,
He spurned each State-craft, each deceiving art,
And met his foes, no vizor to his helm.
This proved his worth ; hereafter be our boast—
Who hated Britons hated him the most.

“ (Loud cheers.) You will at once recognise the original. (Hear, hear.) It remains for me, my Lord Palmerston, to hand to you the names of the members of this club who subscribed to this document ; and I beg to add that the signatures would have swelled to much ampler dimensions had not the time for recording them been prematurely closed. (Cheers.) You see around you many men distinguished alike in commerce, in science, and in politics. I say to those gentlemen who urge the peaceful and calm pursuits of commerce, that in drinking this toast they are doing honour to a man who has preserved inviolate the property of British subjects, and maintained the honour of the British flag in all quarters of the globe. (Loud cheers.) I say to those—and I see many such around me—who are content with the calmer paths of literature and science, that you are doing honour to the orator and the scholar. (Cheers.) Above all, I say to those—their name is ‘ Legion ’—who love the peaceful path of constitutional responsible Government, you are doing honour to a man whose name in other climes is identified with those principles which we are assembled here to honour, and which form the character of this club. (Cheers.) I give you, then, with all the honours—that ‘ nine times nine ’ which is only devoted to celebrated men—‘ The health of our valued guest, Lord Palmerston.’ ”

The toast was most enthusiastically received, and drunk with “ all the honours,” as indicated by the chairman. Air, “ Rule Britannia.”

Viscount Palmerston, whose rising was the signal for a fresh burst of enthusiastic applause, spoke as follows :—“ My Lords and Gentlemen, when I think of the honourable and flattering reception which I have received from you this day, and when I think of the terms—far exceeding anything which I can feel conscious of deserving—in which my honourable and gallant friend has been pleased to propose this toast to you, I am sensible of that truth which we have often heard—that it is far more easy to find arguments successfully to repel opponents than words adequate to express all one’s thanks and gratitude to one’s friends. (Cheers.) It is said, indeed, that from the fulness of the heart the mouth speaketh ; but the heart may be too full to allow the tongue to give proper utterance to the feelings. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, you have met here to-day, not merely to testify your kind and friendly feelings towards one individual, but you have met, also, I apprehend, to record by this public demonstration, great and leading principles of public policy.

“ (Loud cheers.) I am entitled to infer, gentlemen, that the principles of policy which have
“ guided the Government of which I have the honour to be a member in the administrations of the
“ foreign relations of this country, have been such, generally speaking, and in their general tenor,
“ as to be thought deserving of your approbation. (Loud cheers.) Those principles of policy
“ may be described in a few simple words ; the guiding object of the policy of the Government
“ with regard to its foreign relations has been the interests of England—(great cheering)—interests
“ which begin in the well-being of this country, and which, in their progress, comprehend the
“ well-being of every other country. (Loud cheers.) In regard to this country, it is needless to
“ say that it ought to be the first object of those who are charged with its foreign relations to
“ maintain unimpaired its honour, its dignity and its rights. (Enthusiastic cheering.) It is also
“ our duty to protect our fellow subjects, in whatever foreign land they may be. (Loud cheering.)
“ Gentlemen, we are eminently a travelling, and an enquiring, and a commercial nation. (Cheers.)
“ There is no part of that great ocean that occupies so vast a portion of the globe, on whose bosom
“ our ships and our merchandise are not found to float. There is no land, however distant, or
“ however near, however civilized, however barbarous, in which Englishmen are not found, either
“ for the purpose of recreation or of health, in the pursuit of science or of commerce, or in the
“ nobler and higher vocation of shedding in the regions of darkness the light of our Christian faith.
“ (Deafening plaudits.) I contend, gentlemen, that those fellow-subjects of ours, are entitled,
“ wherever they may be, to think that they are under the guardianship of the watchful eye of this
“ country ; and that the arm of England will either protect them from wrong, or, if wrong should
“ be done, will be powerful to obtain for them redress. (Tremendous and prolonged applause.)
“ I have said, gentlemen, that the interests of England lie not only in our own particular objects,
“ but in the well-being also of other nations. (Hear.) The days are gone by, at least in this
“ country, in which men thought and nations imagined that their prosperity could be promoted
“ by the adversity of others. (Cheers.) We glory in our own wealth—we glory in our own
“ happiness—and we glory in our own liberty ; but we are not desirous to monopolise those
“ blessings, and, so far as our efforts can be properly exerted, I think it is the duty of the
“ Government of this country to assist other nations in following at least our example, and in
“ endeavouring to attain a position similar to that which we have attained. (Loud cheers.)
“ Gentlemen, I do not mean to say, as those who have endeavoured to thwart our policy have
“ unfoundedly asserted, that we ought to go, like knights-errant of civilization, forcing institutions
“ on other countries, exciting them to discontent, and encouraging them to disturbance. (Hear.)
“ Such is not a part of the duties of the Government of England. (Cheers.) But when we see
“ nations which are endeavouring in conjunction with their Governments to improve their institu-
“ tions—when we see nations sensible of the evils under which they are suffering, endeavouring
“ rationally, temperately, and calmly to improve their condition—they deserve at least the
“ sympathy of England. (Loud cheers.) And if other powers, differently impressed by opinions,
“ should endeavour to interfere, in order to prevent the development of liberty—(cheers)—my

“ conviction is, that the Government of England will always be supported and backed by the
“ people of England in throwing our weight into the scale, and endeavouring thus to restore the
“ balance. (Loud applause.) And, gentlemen, be persuaded that that can often be done without
“ endangering the continuance of our peaceful relations. (Cheers.) Do not imagine that we are
“ less sensible than any men in the country of the value and importance of peace—do not imagine
“ that we think lightly of the calamities of war—of the interruption which war imposes to every
“ improvement social, political, and commercial. Do not imagine that we are insensible to the
“ reasons which ought to deter the governors of any country, from involving, without absolute
“ necessity, the people with whose destinies they are charged in the miseries and calamities of war.
“ (Hear, hear, hear.) But, gentlemen, do not let the people of this country imagine that every
“ angry word that may fall from other Governments, will be immediately followed by a blow.
“ (Loud cheers and laughter.) Do not let the people of this country believe that every angry
“ demonstration—every exhibition of dissatisfaction, diplomatic or otherwise—(laughter)—that may
“ come from Governments whose policy and views may be thwarted by the views and policy of
“ England, will necessarily lead to hostilities. (Hear, hear, and applause.) Anxious as the people
“ of this country are—and, to their honour be it spoken, I believe no other people are more
“ anxious for the preservation of peace, or more desirous to avoid war with any country whatever
“ —yet, believe me, that no other country is a bit more desirous, and for the best of all reasons, of
“ going to war with England, than England can be of going to war with it. (Loud and protracted
“ cheering.) Gentlemen, this consciousness of strength, this feeling of natural power, ought never
“ to tempt the Government or the people of England to do anything that is unjust or wrong.
“ (Loud cheers.) But it ought, at least, to bear us up in pursuing the course of justice and honour,
“ and must induce us not lightly to give way to apprehensions which may be founded on no real
“ ground. (Hear, hear.) Gentlemen, I feel that we may be proud, and reasonably proud, of the
“ country in which we have had the good fortune to be born. (Hear, hear.) It seems to me that
“ this British nation is destined by Providence to bear an honourable part in the promotion and
“ advancement of the civilization of mankind. (Loud cheers.) It is from this hive that that
“ swarm has proceeded—the busy, active swarm which has covered, by the works of its construc-
“ tive industry, the wilds and primæval forests of North America. (Cheers.) There is no land,
“ however remote, in which Englishmen are not introducing the arts of civilization and the
“ blessings of Christianity. (Cheers.) And here, in this land, in which we are at home, we may
“ feel proud in thinking that we hold out to all civilized nations of the world an example of
“ internal organization, of systematic and progressive improvement, of practical proof and
“ consciousness, that in improving and repairing ancient institutions, you give them strength, and
“ do not overthrow or destroy them. I say that this country is holding out to the civilized nations
“ of the world an example worthy of the imitation of the ablest statesmen, and worthy also of the
“ admiration of the wisest philosophers. (Cheers.) Gentlemen, I again must thank you—
“ inadequately thank you—for the great and distinguished honour, which has been conferred on

“ me this day ; but I beg to assure you that though my words may fall short of my feelings, and
 “ infinitely below that which is deserved by the kindness which I have received at your hands, the
 “ recollection of this day will be impressed upon my memory to the latest hour of my existence ;
 “ and that in any act of my public life in which I may feel hesitation or doubt, the recollection,
 “ not only of the kindness you have exhibited to-day, but of the handsome and generous support
 “ which I have received at your hands in moments of great personal and official difficulty—(loud
 “ cheers)—will encourage and support me always in the performance of my public duty—(cheers)—
 “ and this you may depend on, gentlemen, that so long as this country has the good fortune to be
 “ represented by such men as those whom I see around me—so long as the people of this country
 “ are animated by those generous and patriotic feelings which have led you here to-day, there can
 “ be no danger that any Government of England will shrink from the performance of its duty, nor
 “ will there ever be peril for the fortunes of our country.” The noble Lord resumed his seat amid
 deafening and protracted cheering.

The other speakers were Lord James Stuart, Sir John Romilly (Attorney-General), Sir G. Strickland, Lord Camoys, Mr. W. M. James, Sir A. Cockburn (Solicitor-General), Mr. Maurice O’Connell, Baron Rothschild, Mr. Serjeant Murphy, and Colonel Freestun, who rose to propose “The Ladies and Lord Palmerston,” which was acknowledged by his lordship. The company separated at a quarter past one o’clock.

Respecting the presence of Press representatives it was remarked, that “in consequence
 “ of the ill-advised and very ill-bred resolve of the Committee to find no room for the reporters
 “ at the banquet table until *after* the cloth had been removed” the details were not recorded as
 they should have been. I am, however, indebted to the *Illustrated London News* for the cut in
 this chapter.

Mr. Ralph Bernal Osborne, the chairman at this banquet, was an habitu  of the CLUB. He occupied one of its chambers for many years, and had been a member since 1843. He was born about 1808, and died at Bestwood, the seat of the Duke and Duchess of St. Alban’s, January 4th, 1882. Early in life Mr. Osborne held a commission in the Army. His biographer tells us, in referring to his election, as a Member of Parliament, for Wycombe, that in the REFORM, it was thought the height of folly and presumption for a young and unknown man to attempt to fight the Abbey interest of Wycombe, and that, when his name was mentioned in other political circles it drew forth the remark, “Oh ! is that the fool who thinks he is going to beat Lord Carrington ?” Undaunted by these sneers, he issued his address, June 3rd, 1841, won the battle and took his seat August 19th.

But to return to the banquet. Mr. Osborne, in the course of his speech, quoted from memory six lines, which occur in Bulwer Lytton’s “King Arthur.” On the 9th of August, 1850, the distinguished author wrote the following letter to Mr. Osborne :—“It was extremely flattering to
 “ me on such an occasion as the dinner given to the honour of Lord Palmerston that you should
 “ have thought anything that I had written worthy of illustrating the transcendent talents of that

“ great statesman. Much, however, as I was flattered by this notice, I could have wished that
 “ you had selected any other passage of my works for quotation, for, on the life of me, on reading
 “ it, I could not understand,

“ And met his foes, *no vizor to his helm.*

“ I certainly wrote it, but what has a *vizor* to do with a *helm* and a *helm* with a *vizor* (and yet the
 “ company cheered) ? The line might have run, and not altogether inappropriately—for my hero
 “ if I recollect rightly, although endowed with great talents, was rash, indiscreet, &c.

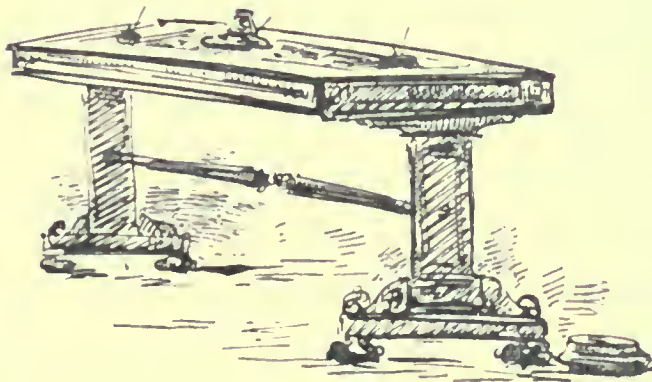
“ And met each foe, no wiser than the last.

“ If the speeches should be printed, let the line be so altered, as it will appear in another edition.”

In the edition of 1853, the lines in question read thus :—

“ With the warm instincts of the knightly heart,
 That rose at once if insult touch'd the realm,
 He spurn'd each state-craft, each deceiving art,
 And rode to war, no vizor to his helm ;
 This proved his worth, this line his tomb may boast—
 ‘ Who hated Cymri, hated Aron most ! ’ ”

Book vi., Stanza vii.



CHAPTER IX.

THE important architectural changes which were effected subsequently on the Library floor of the REFORM CLUB, were first discussed in the spring of 1851. Not, however, until April 11th did the Committee recommend that the Drawing Room, hitherto unused, should be converted into a Library. A Sub-Committee was, therefore, appointed to report on the subject, and another year elapsed before Sir Charles Barry submitted his plans for approval. His proposed alterations were :—

The enlargement of the Smoking Room, which is now known as the Small Smoking Room.

Fitting up a new Billiard Room.

Fitting up the Drawing Room as a Library.

Substituting wood columns for scagliola in the Coffee Room.

The estimated cost was £5,000, which fell short of the actual expenditure by only £100. The works commenced in June, 1853, and were completed on November 7th of the same year, with what result, so far as the Library is concerned, the frontispiece to this volume shows.

On the 14th of September, 1852, the Duke of Wellington died. It behoved those who presided over the management of an Institution like the REFORM CLUB to join, in a fitting manner, in the public expression of regretful admiration for the memory of a man, who, having won all the renown which the sword could give, added to his splendid achievements those of peaceful statesmanship. Ingratitude to its heroes is not a sin which can be charged against the people of Great Britain. The Committee of the CLUB met on the 24th of September to decide how should be treated the façade of the building on the day of the funeral, November 18th. A large stand, with an awning, accommodating four hundred and thirty persons was erected. The whole of Pall Mall presented a striking aspect ; the *coup d'œil* was most impressive. The arrangements at the OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE CLUB seem to have displayed considerable taste. The architecture of the buildings all along the route readily lent itself to effective display without any violation of the spirit and sentiment of the occasion. The disposal of the drapery was determined according to the lines of the buildings, thus forming an elongated canopy. The Clubs were hung with the symbols of mourning. The funeral procession occupied two hours in passing through Pall Mall, and it was estimated that one hundred and twenty thousand persons traversed that street alone.

I must pass over the next two years. On March 28th, 1854, the Crimean War was declared; an event, by the way, which was anticipated by the REFORM CLUB when, three weeks before, on the 7th of that month, it gave a banquet to Sir Charles Napier, K.C.B. A good deal of boasting was indulged in by some of those present at the feast, but not, however, by the guest of the evening.



The Vice-Admiral had been a member of the REFORM CLUB since February 28th, 1842. The dinner was served in the Coffee Room, which was decorated with French, English and Turkish flags, arranged alternately around the apartment. A wood-cut appears in *The Illustrated London News* of March 18th, 1854, at page 228.

Owing to the limited dimensions of the tables accommodation could not be provided for more than two hundred members. Many friends, however, who were unable to obtain seats at the dinner table, crowded the approaches to the banqueting room, to hear the addresses of the chairman and the speech by Sir Charles. A large crowd assembled in Pall Mall to cheer Lord Palmerston and his colleagues. The dinner was served by Fidler, the successor of Soyer, and the toastmaster

was Mr. Higgs. Lord Palmerston took the chair, and among the guests were the Turkish Minister and Namik Pacha. The usual loyal toast having been given, the noble chairman said :—

“ Gentlemen, this country is engaged in an alliance of no small magnitude and importance
 “ with our neighbours in France. (Loud and continued cheers.) It has not often happened in
 “ the history of the world that these two countries have been so united for purposes of such
 “ energetic action. We have had to do, during now more than twelve months of most difficult
 “ and complicated negotiations, with the Sovereign of France. We have met on his part with the
 “ greatest straightforwardness—(great cheering)—with the most perfect good faith—(hear, hear)—and
 “ the most singleminded sincerity—(loud cheers)—and with an energy of purpose and a community
 “ of determination which inspire in our minds that fullest confidence in him which, I am proud to
 “ say, he has always expressed in us. (Prolonged cheering.) I therefore trust, gentlemen, that
 “ you will receive with satisfaction the toast which I wish to propose to you—‘ The Health of the



“ ‘ Emperor and the Empress of the French.’ (Loud cheers.) If, gentlemen,
 “ any words spoken by the subject of a toast could render that toast more
 “ peculiarly acceptable to Englishmen at one moment more than another, I
 “ may refer you to those memorable words in the speech lately delivered
 “ by the Emperor of the French—words which, I trust, will create an epoch
 “ in the history of Europe—(cheers)—words which, coming from the lips of
 “ the Sovereign of a country which has not always practised the maxim they
 “ inculcate, may carry with them double weight—I mean the memorable
 “ expression that ‘the age of conquest is past never to return again.’ (Hear, and cheers.) That,
 “ gentlemen, is a sentiment no less honourable to the mind of the man who uttered it than
 “ reassuring to the destinies of Europe—a sentiment which, I trust, will not fail to produce an
 “ effect in another country more remote than that in which it was uttered. (Cheers.) Gentlemen,
 “ I trust that, the age of conquest having passed, we—who must take an interest in the welfare
 “ and prosperity of our neighbours, whom, I hope, we shall long continue to call our friends as
 “ well as our neighbours—(loud cheers)—may hope, for the welfare of France, that its Augustan
 “ age is about to commence. (Cheers.) I now beg to propose to you ‘ The Health of the
 “ ‘ Emperor and Empress of the French.’ ” (The toast was received with loud and continued
 cheering.)

The chairman again rose and said :—“ Gentlemen, I have brought to your notice one
 “ Sovereign with whom this country is acting in energetic alliance ; and I now wish to propose to
 “ you the health of another Sovereign who, I am sure, must be an object of great interest to this
 “ company, as he is not only to every other man in this country, but I must say to every honest
 “ man in Europe. (Loud cheers.) I wish to propose to you ‘ The Health of His Imperial Majesty
 “ ‘ the Sultan Abdul Medjid. (Great cheering.) There are two circumstances which are calculated,
 “ perhaps, beyond all others, to inspire interest in a man. The one is the good deeds in the man
 “ himself. (Cheers.) The other is the evil doings of other persons towards him. (Loud

“cheering.) Now, I must say, gentlemen, that in both these respects the Sultan is peculiarly
 “entitled to inspire interest in the minds of the men of this country. (Hear, and cheers.) That
 “he is the object of evil doings on the part of others is a fact too notorious to require any
 “explanation—(cheers),—for there never was a Sovereign who was, more than the Sultan now is, the
 “object of the most abominable injustice on the part of others—(loud and continued cheering)—an
 “injustice which is only equalled by that described in the old fable of the wolf and the lamb.
 “(Cheers, and laughter.) This time, however, the wolf has been mistaken—(cheers)—for it is no
 “lamb that he has had to deal with. (Renewed cheers.) Well, gentlemen, as to the deeds of the
 “Sultan himself—surely in the opinion of the members of the REFORM CLUB, the fact that the
 “Sultan has been a great reformer will give him some title to their esteem. (Cheers.) He has
 “not, indeed, wounded the consciences and the prejudices and the habits of his subjects; he has
 “been too wise to go at that speed of reform which would have defeated his own purposes; but,
 “making allowances for those ancient prejudices and those rooted habits with which he had to
 “deal, I venture to say that the Sultan has made greater improvements of all sorts and kinds in his
 “wide dominions than it has fallen to the lot of any other Sovereign to make in a corresponding
 “period of time. (Loud cheers.) The Sultan is now reaping the fruits of the wise course which
 “he has pursued, for, while his powerful neighbour flattered himself that at the sound of his voice
 “and at the beck of his finger half the subjects of the Sultan would rise in rebellion, we have seen
 “all the subjects of the Sultan, Christian and Mahomedan, rallying round him with a common
 “energy and a united patriotism, and exhibiting a spectacle worthy of admiration to the people of
 “every country in the world. (Cheers.) There is one act of the Sultan which, I think, never can
 “be forgotten by the generous people of England. In 1849, when the Hungarians were
 “overpowered by the united powers of Austria and Russia, when the bravest of them were
 “compelled to seek refuge in the territories of the Sultan, and when the Sultan, the Sovereign of a
 “weaker State, was threatened with war by his two powerful neighbours unless he gave up those
 “unfortunate fugitives to the vengeance of those whom they had offended, the Sultan firmly,
 “generously, and bravely refused. (Loud cheers.) Ay, gentlemen, and he refused even before he
 “was assured of that support from England and from France which, when once demanded, could
 “not for one instant of hesitation be withheld. (Renewed cheers.) Merit be to the Sultan that
 “he did not wait for that assurance, but bravely and generously placed himself as a shield before
 “these unfortunate men, and said that he would encounter any extremity rather than be guilty of
 “a breach of hospitality. (Cheers.) I give you, then, ‘The Health of the Sultan, Abdul Medjid,’
 “and I trust that, by the manly support of England and France, fighting hand in hand in his
 “cause, that injustice with which he is threatened will be defeated, and that he will be placed in
 “permanent possession of those sovereign rights which he exercises for the benefit and the welfare
 “of his people.” The toast was drunk amid great cheering.

M. Musurus said :—“Je suis heureux que l'honneur d'assister à cette assemblée distinguée
 “m'appelle à celui d'exprimer ma reconnaissance pour le *toast* porté par le noble Vicomte à la

“santé de Sa Majesté Impériale mon auguste Souverain,—*toast* que vous avez accueilli avec
 “enthousiasme et des marques unanimes de vive sympathie. Cette sympathie est le reflet de
 “celle que la nation Britannique a manifesté en faveur de l’empire Ottoman à toute époque, et
 “notamment à l’occasion d’une noble et juste cause qui n’a cessé d’être dès le commencement
 “l’objet de la sollicitude éclairée du Cabinet Britannique, et pour le triomphe de laquelle
 “l’Angleterre et la France, sous les heureux auspices de Sa Majesté la Reine de la Grande Bretagne
 “et de Sa Majesté l’Empereur des Français, les augustes alliés de mon gracieux Souverain, vont
 “maintenant déployer leur puissance invincible ; témoin les préparatifs imposants faits dans les
 “deux pays, et la mission conférée au brave Amiral en l’honneur de qui nous nous trouvons réunis
 “à ce banquet. (Cheers.) Ce que je regrette dans une conjoncture aussi solennelle, c’est de ne
 “point trouver en moi le talent suffisant pour exprimer à la nation Britannique et à son
 “Gouvernement les sentiments de gratitude de Sa Majesté mon auguste Souverain, de son
 “Gouvernement, et de la nation Ottomane—(cheers) ; et j’avoue que ma tâche eût été acquittée
 “avec plein succès si cette gratitude eût en pour interprète l’illustre et éminent orateur le noble
 “Vicomte, qui, d’ailleurs, comme il vient de le prouver, connaît à fond les sentiments généreux et
 “les intentions paternelles de mon auguste Souverain, et qui, à ce titre, comme à bien d’autres,
 “n’est pas moins populaire en Orient, qu’en Angleterre. (Cheers.) Je me borne donc à joindre
 “mes vœux les plus ardents à ceux que vous formez pour les succès victorieux du brave Amiral
 “appelé à concourir au prompt rétablissement d’une paix durable et destinée à assurer au monde
 “une longue prospérité et les bienfaits de la civilisation.” (Loud cheers.)

The chairman :—“Gentlemen, there are many merits in things, and among other merits
 “novelty holds its place. Now, the toast I am about to propose to you is, I will venture to say,
 “entirely a new one since the days of the Crusaders. (Hear, and cheers.) I propose to you
 “to drink to the allied English and French fleets and armies. (Prolonged cheering.) It is a new
 “thing for any man to be able to propose that toast, and it is a gratifying thing that the day has
 “come when the toast can be proposed. (Cheers.) It is a glorious sight, and one that it does a
 “man’s heart good to look upon, to witness the union of two of the greatest and most civilized
 “countries in the world, whose rivalry and difficulties have for centuries disturbed the peace of
 “mankind—to find them at length united in cordial and generous alliance—(cheers)—fighting,
 “not for conquest, nor for selfish advantages, but for the liberties of oppressed nations, and for the
 “establishment, I may say, of the freedom and independence of Europe. (Cheers.) I trust,
 “gentlemen, that that union will last as long as the differences which preceded it—(loud and
 “continued cheering)—and I am well assured that the spirit of cordial friendship and of disin-
 “terested confidence by which both nations have been inspired in entering into this league—gives
 “an earnest that that wish may be and will be fulfilled. (Cheers.) If men unite—and the same
 “may be said of States as of individuals—if men unite to perpetrate wrong, to commit injustice, to
 “violate the rights of others, whether they fail or whether they succeed, the principle of badness
 “which is inherent in the principle of their union is sure to lead to subsequent dissension. (Hear,

“hear.) If they fail, they throw upon each other the blame ; if they succeed, they dispute about the division of the produce of their guilt. (Hear, hear.) But, when men unite for honourable purposes, when they combine together to do good, whether they fail, or whether they succeed, a union founded upon justice, upon right, and upon honour, survives defeat and flourishes under disaster. (Loud cheers.) I trust that this union to which I have referred will not have to survive in defeat. I am confident, on the contrary, that it will be crowned with success—(cheers)—and it will, indeed, be a proud thing for these two great nations to say that they have stood foremost to maintain right against wrong, that they have protected those who were unjustly attacked, and that, by the glory of their arms, they have established upon sure and permanent foundations the independence of nations and the permanent peace of Europe.” (Loud cheers.)

The toast having been drunk with the usual honours,

Admiral Berkeley said :—“That, in the absence of any officer of the French navy, he begged leave to return thanks for the united navies of France and England. (Cheers.) He was proud to be allowed to return thanks for the gallant nation with which this country was now acting, as well as for his comrades in the British navy. (Renewed cheers.) He could assure them that the English fleets would act in strict union and in honourable rivalry with the fleets of our gallant allies, and he hoped and trusted that that strict union and honourable rivalry might last for ever and ever.” (Loud cheers.)

Sir De Lacy Evans, in returning thanks for the armies of France and England, said :—“That as an old soldier, not unacquainted with the present state either of the English or French armies, he might be allowed to express his conviction that the French army was not, even when commanded by one of the greatest captains the world had produced, in a more efficient state than it was at the present moment. With regard to our own army, he believed it had never been in a better state either with regard to organization, morale, or spirit.” (Cheers.)

The chairman :—“There was a very remarkable entertainer of dinner company, called Sir R. Preston, who lived in the city, and who, when he gave dinners at Greenwich, after gorging his guests with turtle, used to turn round to the waiters and say, ‘Now bring dinner.’ Gentlemen, we have had the toasts which correspond with the turtle, now let’s go to dinner. (Cheers, and laughter.) Now, let us drink the toast which belongs to the real occasion of our assembling here. (Loud cheers.) I give you, ‘The Health of my gallant friend, Sir Charles ‘Napier,’ who sits beside me. (Enthusiastic cheering.) If, gentlemen, I were addressing a Hampshire audience, consisting of country gentlemen residing in that county to which my gallant friend and myself belong, I should introduce him to your notice as an eminent agriculturist. (Laughter.) It has been my good fortune, when enjoying his hospitality at Merchistoun-hall, to receive most valuable instructions from him, while walking over his farm, about stall-feeding, growing turnips, wire fencing, under-draining, and the like. (Laughter.) My gallant friend is a match for everything, and whatever he turns his hand to he generally succeeds in it. (Cheers, and laughter.) However, gentlemen, he now, like Cincinnatus, leaves

“ his plough, puts on his armour, and is prepared to do that good service to his country which he
“ will always perform whenever an opportunity is afforded to him. (Loud cheers.) My gallant
“ friend, indeed, has made himself conspicuous upon every occasion and in every place where he
“ has had an opportunity of distinction. (Cheers.) I pass over those earlier exploits of his
“ younger days, which are well known to the members of his profession ; but, perhaps, one of the
“ most remarkable exploits of his life is that which he performed in that same cause of liberty and
“ justice in which he is now about to be engaged. In the year 1833, when gallantly volunteering to
“ serve the cause of the Queen of Portugal against the encroachments and the usurpations of Don
“ Miguel—to defend constitutional rights and liberties against arbitrary power—he took the com-
“ mand of a modest fleet of frigates and corvettes, and at the head of that little squadron he captured
“ a squadron far superior in force, including two line-of-battle ships, one of which my gallant friend
“ was the first to board. I have been told that while my gallant friend was hanging in the
“ shrouds and trying to get himself upon the deck he was poked at by a Portuguese pikeman, and
“ we very nearly lost the opportunity of meeting him here to-day at this board. (Cheers, and
“ laughter.) But on that occasion my gallant friend exhibited a characteristic trait. When he
“ had scrambled upon the deck of this great line-of-battle ship, and was clearing the deck of those
“ who had possession of it, a Portuguese officer ran at him full dart with his drawn sword to run
“ him through. My gallant friend quietly parried the thrust, and, not giving himself the trouble to
“ deal in any other way with his Portuguese assailant, merely gave him a hearty kick and sent him
“ down the hatchway. (Roars of laughter.) Well, gentlemen, that victory was a great event—
“ (much laughter) ; I don’t mean the victory over the officer who went down—(renewed laughter)
“ —but the victory over the fleet, which my gallant friend took into port—(cheers, and laughter) ;
“ for that victory decided a great cause then pending. It decided the liberties of Portugal ; it
“ decided the question between constitutional and arbitrary power—a contest which began in
“ Portugal and which went on afterwards in Spain, when my gallant friend Sir De Lacy Evans lent
“ his powerful aid in the same cause and with the same success. My gallant friend Sir Charles
“ Napier, however, got the first turn of fortune, and it was mainly owing to that victory of his
“ that the Queen of Portugal afterwards occupied the throne to which she was rightfully entitled,
“ and the Portuguese nation obtained that constitution which they have ever since enjoyed.
“ (Cheers.) A noble friend of mine, now no more, whose loss I greatly lament, for he was equally
“ distinguished as a man, as a soldier and as a diplomatist, the late Lord William Russell—an
“ honour to his country as to his family—told me that one day he heard that my gallant friend Sir
“ Charles Napier was in the neighbourhood of the fortress of Valenza, a Portuguese fortress some
“ considerable distance from the squadron which he commanded. Lord W. Russell and Colonel
“ Hare went to see my gallant friend, and Lord W. Russell told me that they met a man dressed in
“ a very easy way—(great laughter, in which Sir C. Napier heartily joined)—followed by a fellow with
“ two muskets on his shoulders. (Renewed laughter.) They took him at first for Robinson
“ Crusoe—(roars of laughter) ; but who should these men prove to be but the gallant Admiral on

“ my right and a marine behind him. (Laughter.) ‘Well, Napier,’ said Lord W. Russell, ‘What are
 “ ‘you doing here?’ ‘Why,’ said my gallant friend, ‘I am waiting to take Valenza!’ ‘But,’
 “ said Lord William, ‘Valenza is a fortified town, and you must know that we soldiers understand
 “ ‘how fortified towns are taken. You must open trenches; you must make approaches; you
 “ ‘must establish a battery in breach; and all this takes a good deal of time and must be done
 “ ‘according to rule.’ ‘Oh,’ said my gallant friend, ‘I have no time for all that. (Cheers, and
 “ laughter.) ‘I have got some of my blue jackets up here and a few of my ship’s guns, and I
 “ ‘mean to take the town with a letter.’ (Laughter.) And so he did. He sent the governor a
 “ letter to tell him he had much better surrender at discretion. The governor was a very sensible
 “ man—(cheers, and laughter); and so surrender he did. (Cheers.) So the trenches and the
 “ approach, the battery, breach and all that were saved, and the town of Valenza was handed over
 “ to the Queen of Portugal. Well, the next great occasion in which my gallant friend took a
 “ prominent and distinguished part—a part for which I can assure you that I, personally, in my
 “ official capacity, and the government to which I had the honour to belong, felt deeply indebted
 “ and obliged to him—was the occasion of the war in Syria. There my gallant friend
 “ distinguished himself, as usual, at sea and on shore. All was one to him—(laughter and cheers)
 “ —wherever an enemy was to be found; and I feel sure that when the enemy was found the
 “ enemy wished to heaven he had not been found. (Great laughter and cheering.) Well, my
 “ gallant friend landed with his marines, headed a Turkish detachment, defeated the Egyptian
 “ troops, gained a very important victory, stormed the town of Sidon, captured 3,000 or 4,000
 “ Egyptian prisoners, and afterwards took a prominent part in the attack and capture of the
 “ important fortress of Acre. I am bound to say that the government to which I belonged, in
 “ sending those instructions which led to the attack upon Acre, were very much guided by the opinions
 “ which we had received of the practicability of that achievement in letters from my gallant friend.
 “ (Cheers.) Well, gentlemen, my gallant friend was not content with acting successfully the part of
 “ admiral, and the part of general, but he must needs act the part of diplomatist too, and with equal
 “ success. He went in command of part of the fleet to Alexandria. He landed there, and he
 “ persuaded Mehemet Ali to sign a convention which led to the peaceful evacuation of Syria by the
 “ remnant of the Egyptian forces. This measure saved an immense amount of human life, and pre-
 “ vented a great effusion of human blood; it accomplished the purpose we had in view, and it rescued
 “ Syria from the danger by which it was threatened. (Cheers.) Now, gentlemen, the success of
 “ that campaign has no unimportant bearing upon the state of things which we are now
 “ considering, for, whereas at that time the ruler of Egypt directed the resources of Egypt—its
 “ fleets and its armies—in hostile attack upon the Sultan, the result of the arrangements which
 “ were the consequence of my gallant friend’s successful campaign has been that we now see the
 “ troops and ships of Egypt ranging themselves side by side with those of the Sultan, and we find
 “ the Pacha of Egypt as loyal, as zealous, as well-affected a supporter of his sovereign as any other
 “ subject in his dominions. (Loud cheers.) Well then, gentlemen, my gallant friend having had

“ the good fortune to succeed in all his operations, I think we have good reasons to hope that he
“ will be equally successful for the future as he has been in times past. (Loud cheering.) As
“ bearing upon that point, I cannot refrain from repeating an observation which was made to me
“ by a very discriminating, calm-minded friend of mine, who passed some time in the East at the
“ period to which I have adverted, who saw a great deal of my gallant friend, and who, when he
“ came to town, visited me to give me an account of what he had observed in the East, which,
“ considering the position I then held, he thought might be interesting. When I mentioned to
“ him my gallant friend (Sir Charles Napier), and praised his enterprise and boldness, his daring
“ and his intrepidity, this gentleman said ‘ Yes, all that is very true, but there is another quality
“ ‘ that Sir Charles Napier possesses, which is as valuable as any of these, and as important an
“ ‘ ingredient in his success. I never saw any man in my life who calculated so many moves
“ ‘ beforehand.’ (Cheers, and laughter.) Now, gentlemen, when a man can calculate his moves
“ beforehand, and has, to execute those moves, the spirit and genius which are possessed by my
“ gallant friend, I think any country that places its fate and fortune in his hands may feel confident
“ of success.” (Loud cheering.)

The toast was drunk with three times three, followed by prolonged applause.

Sir C. Napier was received with loud and long-continued cheering. He said :—“ My lords
“ and gentlemen, I can scarcely find words to express to you my gratitude for the very handsome
“ manner in which you have received my health. I am rather singularly situated at this moment,
“ for I have on my left a noble lord who was one of the Lords of the Admiralty when I began
“ my career in the navy, and on my right I have my right hon. friend who is now First Lord of
“ the Admiralty. The noble lord has entertained the company by some allusions to my agricultural
“ pursuits, and has given me credit for having devised some plans for improving the agriculture of
“ the country. He has, however, omitted one plan that I recommended to him as a means of
“ getting young lambs early. (Great laughter.) I will not repeat it here, but I shall be extremely
“ happy to explain it to any gentleman who will apply to me on the subject. (Laughter.) The
“ noble lord has also followed me to Portugal, and where he has found all his amusing stories is
“ quite astonishing to me. (A laugh.) On one point I must correct him, because he has given
“ me credit which belongs to others. He stated that I was the first who boarded the Portuguese
“ line-of-battle ship. My gallant captain, Captain Wilkinson, now no more, and my son who was
“ lost in the *Avenger*, were, however, the first persons who boarded that vessel. The noble lord
“ has alluded to my campaigns in the north of Portugal. There, fortunately, as well as in Syria,
“ I was successful, and I hope to be so in the expedition upon which we are now about to embark.
“ I cannot say we are at war, because we are still at peace—(great laughter)—but I suppose we are
“ very nearly at war, and probably when I get into the Baltic I’ll have an opportunity of declaring
“ war. (Loud cheers, laughter, and a cry of ‘ Bravo Charley.’) Certainly, if I have that
“ opportunity I hope it will end in a prosperous war, for I may safely say that this country never
“ sent out such a splendid fleet as will sail for the Baltic in a few days. I think my right hon.

“ friend (Sir J. Graham) and his coadjutors at the Admiralty deserve the greatest credit for having
“ fitted out such a fleet in such a manner after so long a peace. (Cheers.) My right hon. friend
“ the surveyor of the Navy has corrected the faults and errors that had been committed for a great
“ number of years; and I don’t think we could now point out a single fault in the construction of
“ our ships. We have now an enormous line of battle ships that, with the screw, will face wind,
“ tide, and every element. I do not mean to say that our fleet is yet in order, but I believe,
“ considering the officers who have been appointed to it, that it very soon will be. With the force,
“ then, that we have, although it is not equal to the Russian force, I believe that by the assistance
“ of the screw we shall be able to attack a very superior force, and, I have not the slightest doubt
“ that when we do that, that every sailor and every officer in our fleet will remember the words of
“ Lord Nelson, that ‘England expects every man to do his duty.’” (Loud cheers.) The gallant
Admiral concluded by proposing “The Health of the First Lord of the Admiralty,” which was
received with great applause.

Sir J. Graham said :—“ Gentlemen, my noble friend in the chair has spoken to you of happy
“ foreign combinations and of energetic action which are now to be anticipated. I confess to you
“ that I was greatly honoured and gratified by your invitation to be present on this occasion. I
“ thought that that invitation spoke of domestic alliances, of energetic action at home, and I was
“ rejoiced to be invited by the members of the Reform Club, with my noble friend and colleague
“ the Secretary of State in the chair, to celebrate the appointment of my gallant friend Sir Charles
“ Napier to take the command of the Baltic fleet—a happy combination abroad, firm and united
“ councils at home, and an officer selected in whom the confidence of the Government and of the
“ country on a great occasion is happily united. (Loud cheers.) My noble friend the Chairman
“ has spoken to you of some early exploits of my gallant friend Sir Charles Napier. Now it does
“ so happen that at a still earlier period—at the close of the last war—I had the pleasure, and the
“ honour, in the Mediterranean of first making the acquaintance of my gallant friend. He then
“ commanded the *Thames* frigate in the fleet of Lord Exmouth; and, even in his presence, I may
“ tell you that in that fleet, composed of the most distinguished naval heroes, and of officers whose
“ fame is still recorded in our history, there was no officer, without any exception, who more
“ entirely possessed the confidence of Lord Exmouth, and who was more generally admired for his
“ distinguished gallantry than my gallant friend, Sir Charles Napier. (Cheers.) I will not weigh
“ the precise ingredients of valour. My gallant friend was distinguished for remarkable daring
“ and bravery; but even then, in the early part of his career, he verified that praise which my
“ noble friend has said was awarded to him at a later period—he constantly looked several moves
“ beforehand—and, in my humble judgment, he is not only a gallant, but I must add that I look
“ upon him as a discreet commander. (Loud cheers.) He possesses my entire confidence—
“ hear, hear)—and I have rejoiced in the opportunity on a great occasion of commending him to
“ the approbation and choice of my Sovereign. (Loud cheers.) That selection I believe has been
“ approved by the country. (Renewed cheering.) I believe also that it is approved by the

“ profession; and, although the propelling power of the fleets may be changed, although naval
“ tactics may be altered, yet he goes forth the commander, not of a pressed body of men—
“ (cheers)—but of volunteers for this splendid service. All these things may be changed,
“ but one thing is unchanged—that is, the gallantry and power of command of my gallant
“ friend. He does not go forth under any hypocritical pretence of conducting a religious war—
“ (cheers, and laughter)—but to assert the independence of Europe, to maintain the balance of
“ power, and to resist—and I hope successfully to resist—as lawless a spirit of aggression and of
“ reckless aggrandizement as ever disgraced any country. My gallant friend says, when he goes
“ into the Baltic he will declare war. (Laughter.) I, as First Lord of the Admiralty, give him
“ my free consent so to do. (Loud cheering.) I hope that that war may be short, and that it
“ may be sharp. (Cheers.) I am sure that, guided by my gallant friend, it will be decisive, and
“ although politics are excluded generally from the naval profession, yet we, as reformers, may be
“ proud that the honour of the British flag in the Euxine and the Baltic is intrusted to two such
“ champions as Admiral Dundas and Sir Charles Napier. (Cheers.) They will prove true to
“ their country in the last extremity, and I sincerely hope the time may not be far distant when
“ you, perhaps, will kindly invite me again to celebrate the return of my gallant friend. (Loud
“ cheers.) This evening is an evening of happy augury. When we next meet I hope it will be
“ to celebrate a brilliant success.” (Loud cheering.)

Sir W. Molesworth asked permission to propose a toast that he was sure would be drunk
with enthusiasm, “ ‘The Health of their illustrious guest the Turkish Minister’—a gentleman well
“ known to them, and much respected, esteemed, and regarded by all to whom he was known,
“ both on account of his excellent personal qualities, and as the representative of the Sovereign in
“ the defence of whose territories against unmerited aggression—in the defence of whose just and
“ violated rights, the united people of France and England were now arming and sending forth the
“ mightiest fleets that the ocean had ever borne on its surface. (Cheers.) To protect Turkey
“ from unscrupulous violence—to maintain intact the territorial arrangements upon which the
“ stability and well-being of the system of European States mainly depended, to prevent the
“ dangerous aggrandizement of Russia at the expense of the Ottoman Empire—these were the sole
“ and disinterested objects for which the people of France and England had combined. Deter-
“ mined at all risks and at all hazards to attain these objects, they had at first expected to attain
“ them without the calamities of war—(hear, hear)—they had placed some reliance on the personal
“ and oft-repeated assurances of the Czar, that he was most desirous to maintain the integrity and
“ independence of the Ottoman Porte, and that he wished for no increase of the power or authority
“ which had been conceded to him by treaties. (Hear, hear.) They also put some faith in the
“ word of this Sovereign, whose boast it was that, with the power of an autocrat, he possessed the
“ feelings of honour of a gentleman. They sincerely and earnestly hoped that the difficulties of
“ the Eastern question might be settled by means of peaceful negotiations, and they held it to be
“ for the interest of Turkey, of Europe, and mankind, that they should not draw the sword as

“long as they could keep it with honour in its scabbard. (Cheers.) Their efforts—first to
 “preserve, next to restore peace—had been nobly seconded by the Ottoman Government, which
 “had displayed great moderation, forbearance, and self-denial, together with courage, magnanimity,
 “and good faith—(cheers),—offering thereby a remarkable contrast to their grasping and imperious
 “assailant. Our peaceful efforts had however failed. The fairest offers had been scornfully
 “rejected. On false and flimsy pretexts two provinces of the Turkish Empire had been invaded,
 “and their revenues confiscated; incendiary proclamations had been issued to excite religious
 “fanaticism; blasphemous appeals had been made to the Almighty; a crusade had been preached
 “to disguise the lust of dominion; the words of Scripture had been quoted to justify acts of
 “aggression; and the feelings of humanity had been outraged by scenes of unnecessary carnage
 “and cruelty. (Hear, hear.) The time for negotiation was therefore past—(cheers)—the time for
 “vigorous action had come. (Renewed cheering.) The summons had been sent; the answer
 “must be war. The combined fleets and armies of France and England were ready, eager to
 “display their prowess, and to make the shores of the Baltic and Euxine resound with their deeds
 “of military and naval daring. (Cheers.) France and England now expected every man to do
 “his duty. Their expectations would be fulfilled. (Cheers.) The gallant admirals present and
 “their brave brethren in arms would soon awaken the Czar from his dream of vain-glory, and
 “irresistible might would teach him that he could not break his word with impunity, would inflict
 “well-merited chastisement upon this wanton disturber of the peace of the world, and would make
 “him bitterly repent the wrong that he had done to the monarch whom France and England were
 “bound and resolved to protect. (Loud cheers.) Our quarrel was a just one, and as the
 “poet said:—

“Thrice is he armed who hath his quarrel just,
 And he but naked, though locked up in steel,
 Whose conscience with injustice is corrupted.”

Sir W. Molesworth concluded by proposing “The Health of the Turkish Minister,” who acknowledged the compliment, and the following toasts were afterwards given and duly honoured:—
 “The Chairman,” “The Vice-Chairman,” “Namik Pacha,” “Admirals Hamelin and Dundas,
 “and success to the combined fleets,” and “The Reform Club, and continued prosperity
 “to it.”

The reader will have noticed that Lord Palmerston, in wishing success to Sir Charles Napier, used expressions which were at the time remarked upon as fit only to be spoken at a wedding breakfast. Mr. Bright remonstrated against the levity of these jokes at a crisis so grave and fateful. In the House of Commons, on the 13th of March, 1854, he referred in the following terms to the Prime Minister’s speech:—“ . . . I shall say nothing as to the good taste or
 “bad taste of ministers of the Crown attending that dinner at the Reform Club. The noble lord
 “the member for Tiverton (Lord Palmerston), however, was the chairman upon that occasion.



“ I will not go into the question as to whether he should have been or not ; but I could not help
“ contrasting the language which he used, when speaking of the single-mindedness, the good
“ faith and the honour of a certain ruler abroad, with the language which he used some two
“ years since, when he sought to frighten this House and the country by describing the imminent
“ probability of a marauding army of some 60,000 Frenchmen landing on the southern shores of
“ England in a single night. . . . Sir Charles Napier’s was, in my opinion, the best speech at
“ the dinner. There was nothing in it unbecoming the position in which he was placed ; and I
“ will say nothing of his appointment, more than this, that it seems now to be the opinion of the
“ Government, and a settled thing, that a man does not arrive at maturity until he is seventy
“ years of age.”

Lord Palmerston, in the course of his reply, said:—“ The hon. gentleman has been pleased to
“ advert to the circumstance of my being chairman at the dinner, and he has been kind enough to
“ express an opinion as to my conduct on that occasion, I deem it right to inform the hon.
“ gentleman that any opinion he may entertain either of me personally, or of my conduct, will in
“ no way whatever be influenced by anything which the hon. gentleman may say. I therefore
“ treat the censure of the hon. gentleman with the most perfect indifference and contempt.

“(Order.) That may be parliamentary or not. If it is not, I do not insist upon the expression. The hon. gentleman had stated that he felt the greatest pain on reading the report of the proceedings which took place at that dinner. That pain arises, no doubt, from the manner in which the members of the Reform Club were pleased to testify their confidence in Sir Charles Napier, and their satisfaction at finding that a distinguished member of the club had been selected for a most important post at a time of great public emergency. For my own part, I can only say that I felt very proud at being invited by the Reform Club to preside at the dinner on the occasion to which allusion has been made. I thought it an honour conferred on me when I was asked to preside at a dinner given to my gallant friend Sir Charles Napier. The hon. member for Manchester thinks that those dinner arrangements must be Cabinet questions. They are not discussed in the Cabinet at all; and, though I confess the speech of the hon. member was calculated to excite any but a friendly feeling on my part, I will only say, in conclusion, that if he should get himself elected a member of the Reform Club—(an hon. member: ‘He is a member’) —Oh! he is a member, is he? a most unworthy member, I must say.” And in this vein the Prime Minister continued.

The other speakers who joined in this discussion were Mr. Fitzstephen French, Sir James Graham, Sir Thomas Herbert, Sir William Molesworth, Mr. Disraeli, Mr. Spooner and Mr. Cobden. The discussion then ceased.

As we are on the subject of banquets, it will not be inopportune to mention that Charles Elmé Francatelli was appointed *chef* of the REFORM CLUB in the summer of 1854, a place which he held for seven years. Francatelli was of Italian extraction, but was born in London, educated in France, and was the author of several books on cookery. He died August 10th, 1876, aged 71.



CHAPTER X.

IF smoking be a pardonable vice, then an almost virtuous step was taken in 1856. Early in this year one hundred and seventy-nine members signed a petition for the conversion of the old and unused Library, into a Smoking Room. The petition was most favourably received by the Committee, who appointed Mr. Joseph Gwilt, Mr. T. W. Rammell and Major Beare to receive a deputation of members, and instructed an architect to consider how the desired changes could be best effected without detriment to the Building or inconvenience to members. The wishes of the "Smokers" were soon gratified, for at the annual meeting of that year, it was decided that the necessary alterations should be commenced without delay.

To pass to more important details. The lofty aspiration for an emancipated Italy was due in great part to the sympathy and moral support which that country received from the English people, and in particular from Mr. Gladstone's personal interest and action.



The year 1851, is memorable in the annals of Italy for that statesman's visit to Naples—*Si natura negat, facit indignatio versum*. Soon after his arrival, Mr. Gladstone “supped full “ of horrors,” and expressed his feelings on the glaring absence of justice in the actions of the Neapolitan Government, and on the cruelties inflicted on the persons of hapless political offenders. The result of Mr. Gladstone's observations appeared in the two celebrated letters addressed to Lord Aberdeen. The general character of the Neapolitan Administration is well summed up in a pithy sentence, quoted in the first :—*È la negazione di Dio eretta a sistema di Governo*.

Whoever has studied her history, must know that modern Italy was not consolidated by the efforts of any one individual. Of all the men of the highest rank, who devoted their lives to the achievement of this noble end, there stands first and foremost,—Carlo Poerio and Luigi Settembrini. These two patriots reached London towards the end of March, 1859. Among the many marks of sympathy and respect which they received here, should be included their election as honorary members of the REFORM CLUB, for the statutory period of one month, and also the collection of a large sum of money in the CLUB* on their behalf.

It is, indeed, pleasant to contemplate the kindness bestowed on these two patriots. They had been cruelly punished for their only offence of having uttered the language of truth and virtue amid the profligacies and the mendacities of a Bourbon Government. A complete account of their sufferings would be beyond the scope of this work. Suffice it to say, that Poerio had been Prime Minister of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies in 1848, and that he was, shortly afterwards, imprisoned for eleven years. Settembrini—respecting whom Mr. Gladstone wrote : “ He is in a sphere by some degrees narrower, but with a character quite as pure and fair as “ Poerio's”—was similarly treated by Ferdinand II.

The next event of a National character in the celebration of which the CLUB took a prominent part was the arrival in the metropolis of the Princess Alexandra. Nothing could have been more creditable to the nation at large, than the general aspect of the masses on the 7th of March, 1863. The Clubs too, in the West End, and especially in Pall Mall, vied with each other in the heartiness of their welcome to the Prince and Princess. The REFORM CLUB distinguished itself greatly. Four hundred and twenty seats were provided for ladies, to view the *cortège*. The façade of the Building was tastefully hung with crimson cloth, and there was a sumptuous entertainment within. The other Clubs, namely, the ATHENÆUM, the CARLTON and the ARMY AND NAVY, were all equally conspicuous for the arrangements which they had made to gratify their lady friends by giving them an opportunity of witnessing a sight that could not but afford them the greatest satisfaction. A very extensive platform in the courtyard of the War Office, and a balcony in front of Marlborough House, also lent their aid in enabling hundreds of persons to see the procession. Immediately opposite the latter mansion this motto appeared in German : “ Welcome to Denmark's lovely

* A similar act was done on the occasion of the visit of the German Refugees to London, in September, 1836.

“ Daughter.” It would be tedious to particularise the banners, flags and devices which adorned Pall Mall. The REFORM vied with its neighbour the CARLTON in manifesting respect and regard for the arrival of the fairest of Princesses. The *festa* ended with a grand illumination on the night of the 10th.



Let me now advert to another important event which took place in 1864, namely Garibaldi's visit here. The wild enthusiasm with which he was received by the densest masses that ever attended a procession in London, will not have faded from the recollection of the majority of my readers.

On April 1st, 1864, Mr., now Sir Arthur Otway, asked the Committee of the REFORM CLUB to elect the Italian hero an honorary member ; and, for this purpose, to dispense with the usual preliminaries. A week later, Lord Clanricarde suggested that a banquet be given to Garibaldi, but for diverse reasons it was settled that a breakfast or luncheon be offered instead for the 21st of April. The news of the intended visit rapidly spread amongst the people, who collected in Pall Mall in large crowds. The entrance to the CLUB and the hall was well filled with ladies. The breakfast table, in the Coffee Room, accommodated two hundred members ; at one end of it stood Jullien's band, together with the orchestra of Her Majesty's Theatre. Lord Ebury presided, and at the conclusion of the repast gave the health of the guest in these words :—

“ General ! We, gentlemen, are assembled together because we are admirers of liberty, and
 “ we are so because we believe that liberty promotes the best interests of mankind. We believe,
 “ also, that one of the greatest curses that can befall a country is war, and, therefore, we are
 “ promoters of peace. But there is one curse that we think is even more terrible than war, and
 “ that is despotism, whether it be a despotism of Kings, of Lords or of Commons ; and if there
 “ were cause we should be as ready as our ancestors to draw the sword and shed our blood in
 “ defence of the principles of our country. We have, therefore, General, watched your career
 “ from its commencement to its zenith. Judge for yourself, General, what our feelings may be
 “ when we see him of whom we have heard so much bodily in our presence. (Cheers.) General,
 “ there is one quality which I hope I may venture to claim for my countrymen, and that is that we
 “ are a religious people. By that I mean that we believe that there is a superintending Providence
 “ over all things both in heaven and on earth. It was, therefore, General, our first act, when we
 “ heard of your great deeds, to offer up thanksgiving to the great Almighty that he had been
 “ pleased to raise up such a man to perform such deeds. But this, General, does not prevent us
 “ from honouring the instrument on earth. (Cheers.) Far from it. The same book which
 “ inspires the former sentiment tells us to give honour to whom honour is due. Thus it is,
 “ General, that you have received that continual, hearty and enthusiastic welcome which scarcely, I
 “ fear, leaves you time for repose, but which may, perhaps, even fatiguing as it is, have afforded

“ you some little compensation for the life of toil, of danger and suffering which you have
 “ undergone for your country, and which also may make a little compensation for some apparent
 “ ingratitude from a quarter whence that ingratitude was least to be expected. (Hear.) But, sir,
 “ what generous mind would not appreciate, how much more than your own, would not duly
 “ appreciate the spontaneous applause of a free, a happy and a Christian people ? (Hear, hear.)
 “ General, I have but a few more remarks to make—forgive me if I am obliged to address these
 “ somewhat personally. You have displayed very rare, very daring and very unusual qualities for
 “ your country’s good. How many examples are there of men who have struggled ardently, who
 “ have fought and bled for their country, who have endured reverses and sufferings with unshaken
 “ fortitude, but who, when the time of prosperity came, have lost their equilibrium, sullied their
 “ fair fames, and done irreparable injury to the enterprise in which they first embarked ! You,
 “ General, have shown that you have the power of self-denial in whatever position you may be.
 “ (Cheers.) I believe that history affords no example of a man whose constancy has been so tried.
 “ What it has cost you, General, to resist the many temptations that have come to you no one but
 “ yourself can know ; but we owe you a debt of gratitude for having given the world such a name
 “ as yours. (Cheers.) We regret that we must no longer prolong the pleasure which your
 “ presence here causes us. We know, alas ! that your stay in this country is numbered not by
 “ days but by hours. (No, no, no.) At all events you have much to do. (Hear, hear, and
 “ cheers.) But I will say, on the part of those gentlemen whom I have the honour to represent,
 “ that our heart’s desire is that it may please God to watch over your health and grant you a speedy
 “ recovery, in order that you may be enabled to devote the influence of your good name and your
 “ powers to that cause which is as yet far from achieved—(prolonged cheers)—a cause that will
 “ require all the perseverance, all the courage, all the counsel, all the wisdom of all the patriotic
 “ children of your country—that cause for which you are ready to lay down your life—the salvation
 “ and regeneration of Italy. (Prolonged cheering.) I propose ‘The Health of our illustrious
 “ ‘Guest.’”

The toast was drunk with great cheering. When the applause had subsided, the chorus led
 by Signor Arditì, sang first the Garibaldi Hymn and then Arditì’s “Garibaldina,” composed
 expressly to celebrate the General’s visit to England. The music over, the hero said :—

“ My Lords and Gentlemen,—My gratitude to you for the great sympathy you have for me
 “ I think is very great ; but I cannot express my feelings of gratitude for your kind sympathy to
 “ my poor country. (The members here cheered, and then came a pause for some minutes.) I
 “ am almost an Englishman now—(cheers repeated)—and certainly I am very proud to be so, and I
 “ invite you to a toast—‘To the prosperity of my adopted country ;’ and I pray you to receive
 “ my thanks for your kindness. Never in my life will I forget the kindness I have received from
 “ this illustrious Association.”

The “Health of the President” was next proposed by Mr. W. H. Gore Langton, M.P., to
 which Lord Ebury made a brief response, and the proceedings terminated.

On the 18th of October, 1865, Lord Palmerston died. He was an original member of the REFORM CLUB. The Committee ordered that the balconies upon the Drawing-Room Floor, and the entrance to the CLUB, be draped in black on the day of the funeral, October 27th. It may be interesting to publish a letter which expresses better than any words of mine, this great national loss :—

“ Clumber,

“ October 18th, 1865.

“ MY DEAR PANIZZI,

“ *Ei fù!* Death has indeed laid low the most towering antlers in all the forest. No man in England will more sincerely mourn Lord Palmerston than you. Your warm heart, your long and close friendship with him, and your sense of all he had said and done for Italy, all so bound you to him that you will deeply feel this loss. As for myself, I am stunned. It was plain that this would come ; but sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof, and there is no surplus stock of energy in the mind to face, far less to anticipate, fresh contingencies. But I need not speak of this great event. To-morrow all England will be ringing of it, and the world will echo England. I cannot forecast the changes which will follow ; but it is easy to see what the first step should be.

“ I cannot write on any other subject.

“ Yours ever, and most warmly,

“ W. E. GLADSTONE.”

The words *Ei fù* are from Manzoni's “Cinque Maggio,” or his Ode on the Death of Napoleon I., the translation of which, by Mr. Gladstone, is now exceedingly scarce. A copy, formerly the property of the late Sir Anthony Panizzi, exists in the Library of the REFORM CLUB.

To return to the subject of Lord Palmerston's funeral. The route was along Piccadilly, down St. James's Street, along Pall Mall to Charing Cross, down Whitehall and Parliament Street to the Broad Sanctuary in front of the great west door of the Abbey. Black drapery adorned the fronts of the several Club-houses. The REFORM had its doorway overhung with a sable curtain, bearing the Viscount's Coronet, coupled with the letter P., and yellow wreaths of immortelles tastefully festooned together. The pillars and balustrades were dressed in black and white, and the low iron pillars flanking the doorsteps were enveloped in black cloth, encircled spirally with white and black silken cord. All the window blinds were drawn down. The CARLTON was not in mourning attire, but its members, mustered on the steps and at the windows, saluting with bare heads the funeral car as it passed in front of them.

De omnibus rebus et quibusdam might be the comprehensive title of this chapter.* In the summer of 1867 his Imperial Majesty the Sultan visited England. At the REFORM CLUB a wish was expressed that a banquet should be offered to his Imperial Majesty ; and, consequently, a Sub-Committee, composed of Mr. C. de la Pryme, Mr. Lennox Boyd and Mr. W. S. Potter, was

* In 1866, the CLUB was closed for the usual cleaning and repairing, and the members met at Willis's Rooms.

appointed to carry out the necessary steps. A letter to that effect was addressed to his Excellency Musurus Pacha, whose answer was as follows :—

“ July 18th, 1867.

“ The Turkish Ambassador presents his compliments to the members of the Committee of the Reform Club, and begs to inform them that he has received the command of his Imperial Majesty the Sultan to thank them for the invitation to dine at the Reform Club, which they were good enough to request the Turkish Ambassador to submit to his Imperial Majesty, but which it has been found impossible to accept, in consequence of the arrangements for every day of his Imperial Majesty’s stay being already completed. The Turkish Ambassador has received the further command of his august Master to state that his Imperial Majesty will be pleased to receive a Deputation from the Reform Club at Buckingham Palace at 11 o’clock on Friday, the 19th instant, and personally express his thanks for the mark of attention, which the Club has been good enough to pay to his Imperial Majesty.”

The reply to this was :—“ The Committee of the REFORM CLUB have much pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of the Turkish Ambassador’s letter, and, thanking his Excellency for the same, beg leave to state that a Deputation from the Club will have the honour of waiting on his Imperial Majesty, the Sultan, at Buckingham Palace, on Friday morning at 11 o’clock.” The Deputation, however, was ultimately received on the Saturday. It consisted of twenty-four gentlemen, among whom were :—Major Beare, Mr. Lennox Boyd, Mr. Charles de la Pryme, Mr. Robert Crawford, Mr. Fergusson, Mr. R. H. Galloway, Mr. Thomas J. Laing, Mr. P. H. Le Breton, Mr. Lewis Morris, Mr. Marsh Nelson, Mr. Serjeant (now Sir John) Simon, and Mr. F. W. Halford, Secretary. The following is a copy of the address :—“ We, the Members of a Deputation of the Reform Club, approach your Majesty, with feelings of sincere respect.

“ We are the representatives of a Society formed not only for social intercourse, but for the maintenance and promotion of those principles of civil and religious liberty which we consider to be identified with the truest interests of mankind. We believe that the best method of diffusing those enlightened views, is, by mutual friendly inter-communication of Nations, especially of their Rulers and Statesmen.

“ It is, therefore, with feelings of supreme gratification that we hail your Majesty’s arrival in this Country, the first visit of a member of your august Dynasty to the seat of the British Empire.

“ Had it been in your Majesty’s power to have accepted the banquet which we presumed to offer, we should have profoundly estimated the great honour conferred upon our Society. But we are, nevertheless, deeply sensible of your Majesty’s condescension in permitting us to have this interview, and of personally expressing to the Sovereign of a Country, with which our own has been so long on terms of perfect amity, how much we feel your Majesty’s kindness in coming so great a distance to visit us, how cordial a welcome we give you, and how sincere are our desires that your Majesty’s life may long be preserved in health and happiness.”

The Sultan replied :—

“20th July, 1867.

“I received your address with feelings of great satisfaction.

“I desired to see you, in order that I might personally express to you, my thanks, for the
“invitation of your Club, and my regret, that all the time of my stay here, was by previous
“engagements too fully occupied to permit me to accept it. I am very sensible of the warmth
“and heartiness of my reception by your noble Nation, for whom I have the greatest sympathy.”

At the Annual Meeting of 1869, the Political Committee (as it now stands), of the REFORM CLUB, was constituted. Its present chairman is the Right Hon. C. P. Villiers; and the vice-chairman is Mr. Lewis Morris, well known for his valuable contributions to the poetical literature of the time, and principally for “The Epic of Hades.” Mr. Morris became a member of the REFORM CLUB, May 22nd, 1862. The Committee is composed of fifty members, and their duties are :—

“1. To promote the political organization of the Liberal party, and to aid the several
“constituencies in securing suitable candidates for seats.”

“2. To arbitrate between conflicting Liberal candidates at Parliamentary Elections
“contesting the same seat or seats, in order to prevent the loss of seats by division in the
“Liberal ranks.”

“3. To suggest and carry out such changes in the rules and regulations of the Club as
“may from time to time be found necessary to secure its useful political action.”

At the General Meeting in 1877, a change was made in the rules affecting the Political Committee. The effect of this change was to empower the Committee to elect two candidates in each year who had “proved their attachment to the Liberal cause by marked and obvious services
“to it.” In accordance with this power, the following candidates have been elected members of the CLUB :—

1877. Professor Goldwin Smith.

„ Mr. J. H. Stoddart, editor of *The Glasgow Herald*.

1878. Mr. Henry Dunckley, editor of *The Manchester Examiner and Times*.

„ Mr. James Grahame, then Hon. Secretary to the West of Scotland Liberal Association.

1879. Mr. A. Craig Sellar, then Hon. Secretary to the Liberal Central Association.

„ The Earl of Breadalbane.

1880. Mr. Thomas Burt, M.P.

„ Sir Peter Coats.

1881. Mr. Edward Lloyd, proprietor and conductor of *Lloyd's Weekly News* and *The Daily Chronicle*.

„ Mr. Charles Cooper, editor of *The Scotsman*.

1882. Mr. Henry Broadhurst, M.P.

1884. The Right Hon. (now Sir) George O. Trevelyan, M.P.

1885. Mr. Edward Dicey, editor of *The Observer*.

„ Mr. Henry W. Lucy, now editor of *The Daily News*.

1886. The Right Hon. G. J. Shaw Lefevre, M.P.

„ Mr. Herbert Gladstone, M.P.

It should be here stated that Mr. Dicey declined to accept his election.

On the 14th of May, 1869, the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, M.P., became a member of the REFORM CLUB, having been elected by the Committee under Rule III., now Rule IV., which says that “the Committee is empowered to elect each year as members, two gentlemen of “distinguished eminence for Public Service, or in Science, Literature, or Arts.” But Mr. Gladstone resigned his membership six years later—when, as will be remembered, early in 1875, he abandoned the leadership of the Liberal party. Who was to succeed him in that post? The late Mr. Forster’s name was suggested, but he refused to be nominated—and a meeting of about one hundred and forty Members of Parliament, met at the REFORM CLUB, on Wednesday, February 3rd, 1875. Earl Granville, by common consent, succeeded Mr. Gladstone, as the general Leader of the Liberal party, and the Marquis of Hartington was elected Leader of the Liberals in the House of Commons.

Mr. John Bright, having been called to the chair (at the Reform Club meeting), on the motion of Mr. Cowper-Temple and Mr. Dillwyn, the right hon. Member for Birmingham made a brief speech to the effect that although the chief object of the gathering was to elect a Leader, yet Liberal Members would reserve to themselves perfect liberty of action. Mr. Whitbread then moved the following resolution :—“That this meeting desires to express its deep sense of the “great loss which the country has sustained in the retirement of Mr. Gladstone from the leadership “of the Liberal party.” Mr. Fawcett seconded the motion, and in paying Mr. Gladstone a high tribute on behalf of his independent supporters, observed :—“When we opposed him, in the very “height of his power—and I say this most advisedly—we never admired him more than in the “hour of his defeat. I think that he bore that defeat with magnanimity, good feeling, and true “nobility of character.” Mr. Villiers then proposed that the Marquis of Hartington should be requested to undertake the leadership of the Liberal party in the House of Commons. The late Mr. Samuel Morley seconded the motion. Lord Frederick Cavendish said he had no doubt his brother would accept the office, and Mr. Bright, in acknowledging the vote of thanks to him as chairman, passed a warm and hearty eulogium on the Marquis of Hartington, concluding as follows :—“He is, I am happy to say—I trust he will long continue to be—in robust health He has “plenty of courage, and he has, moreover, what in the north of England is called hard-headedness. “(Loud cheers.) He is a very sensible man, and only requires great occasions to bring out his “great good sense. (Cheers.) That being so, the position we have now offered him will be one “that will give him the opportunity not only of personal distinction, but of conferring very great “services upon his party. I may say that I look forward with considerable—I may say with “very great—confidence to his future and to the success of the party in the future under him.

“ (Cheers.) My own impression is that we have done the right thing at the right time and in the right manner. (Loud cheers.) If there be any here who know the sentiments of our late leader with respect to this question, I think they will agree with me when I say that what we have done will probably meet with his sympathy. (Cheers.) I only hope that the Liberal party in time to come—and I hope that time will not be a remote time—will under our new leader, accomplish great things for the interests of the country, which I trust may fairly be put in competition with what has been done by our late leader.” (Loud cheers.)

Before passing to the next subject, it may be stated that, together with Mr. Gladstone, in 1869, Earl Granville was elected a member. A year later, the Marquis of Hartington and Earl Spencer—names which add lustre to the history of the REFORM—were elected.

On the 11th of August, 1878, the CLUB was closed for general repairs, and the members became the guests of the DEVONSHIRE CLUB, whose hospitality they enjoyed until December 1st. The following letter respecting the latter Club, written by one of its founders, will prove interesting :—

“ Devonshire Club,

“ St. James’s, S.W.,

“ September 29th, 1886.

“ DEAR FAGAN,

“ As one of the grateful 1,400 members who will have to thank you for the History of our Club, I have much pleasure in offering a contribution to your materials, of which you can make as much or as little use as you like. I think its History would not be quite complete without some reference to the Devonshire Club, which was considered at the time of its foundation as the eldest daughter or the younger sister of the Reform Club, and in no way whatever as a rival to it. It was felt by some of the leading members that it was a disadvantage that members wishing to join the Reform Club had to wait so long a time till their turn for election came, and that a Junior Club would meet this difficulty, in the same way as the Junior Carlton had met it in reference to the Carlton Club.

“ The name of *Junior Reform Club* would have been adopted but for the suggested evil of the mistakes arising in the addresses of letters and making of appointments, by having two Clubs of nearly the same name. The name of *Devonshire* was finally adopted in compliment to the Duke, our first Committee Meetings having been held by invitation at his house in Piccadilly and he being considered as our principal founder.

“ A preliminary meeting of the gentlemen wishing to found the Club was held at the offices of the Central Liberal Association, in Parliament Street, on 27th May, 1874, when resolutions were moved and seconded by the Marquis of Hartington, Lord Waveney, Lord Carlingford and J. A. Hardcastle, Esq., M.P., and an Executive Managing Committee was appointed, consisting of :—

" THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON,
" M.P.

" THE EARL OF CORK.

" THE LORD WOLVERTON.

" THE MARQUIS OF HUNTLEY.

" THE LORD KENSINGTON, M.P.

" THE RT. HON. W. P. ADAM, M.P.

" THE RT. HON. HUGH C. E. CHILDERS,
" M.P.

" THE RT. HON. W. H. F. COGAN, M.P.

" THE HON. A. FULKE GREVILLE.

SIR WILLIAM R. DRAKE.

SIR HENRY JAMES, Q.C., M.P.

CHARLES DE LA PRYME, ESQ.

ARTHUR D. HAYTER, ESQ., M.P.

E. A. LEATHAM, ESQ., M.P.

SAMUEL MORLEY, ESQ., M.P.

J. W. PEASE, ESQ., M.P.

T. B. POTTER, ESQ., M.P.

W. RATHBONE, ESQ., M.P.

A. CRAIG SELLAR, ESQ.

SIR JULIAN GOLDSMID.

" On the 14th of July, 1874, the first meeting of the founders took place, at the invitation of the Duke of Devonshire, at his house in Piccadilly. The rules of all the leading clubs were procured, and their respective merits discussed. It was unanimously resolved to have the same annual subscription and entrance fee as the Reform Club, and in all leading features to assimilate the rules of the Clubs. On one important point only was there any deviation from this understanding, viz., the mode of election of members. It was, after more than one discussion, finally agreed that the election should be by a committee, and not by the general ballot by the members, as at the Reform Club. Personal knowledge of the candidates by their proposers and seconders was required, and two black balls were to exclude. It was also agreed, at a subsequent meeting, to admit the members of the Cobden Club without the preliminary requisites of proposing, seconding and balloting.

" Two Sub-Committees were appointed, one for the furnishing of the Club, and one for the Library.

" The Duke of Devonshire was elected President and the Marquis of Hartington Vice-President, and a Guarantee Fund was formed to which they were the largest contributors, the other members of the Committee contributing £500 each.

" The following gentlemen were the members of the Committee present who elected the first 300 members :—

" THE MARQUIS OF HARTINGTON,
" M.P.

" THE LORD KENSINGTON, M.P.

" THE EARL OF CORK.

" THE RT. HON. W. P. ADAM, M.P.

" THE HON. A. FULKE GREVILLE.

" SIR WILLIAM DRAKE.

SIR HENRY JAMES, Q.C., M.P.

ARTHUR D. HAYTER, ESQ., M.P.

CHARLES DE LA PRYME, ESQ.

J. W. PEASE, ESQ.

T. B. POTTER, ESQ.

E. A. LEATHAM, ESQ.

A. CRAIG SELLAR, ESQ.

“Negotiations were entered into with the Trustees of the present building, including the centre house in Bennet Street, with which there is a communication on the left-hand side. The rent was £4,000 a year, with the option of a lease for fifty years at £4,500. In 1876 the freehold was purchased by the Club for £100,000, in the name of the Duke of Westminster and other Trustees. The lease also of the Arlington Club in Arlington Street, and adjoining the Club, was purchased for £10,000, with a ground rent of £560 for its unexpired term of 75 years, in the name of the Right Hon. W. P. Adam and other Trustees.

“The cost of adapting these latter premises, and the additional expense of furniture, amounted to £22,000, under the superintendence of Mr. Wyatt, the architect, and the Furnishing Committee. The Club was opened on 1st of March, 1875.

“There are two Morning Reading Rooms on the ground floor, one of them for smoking, and a Dining Room on the first floor nearly 100 feet long, in which House Dinners are given during the Parliamentary season, at which each member may invite a guest who is not a member—an example which it is hoped the Reform Club may be able to follow.

“The celebrated picture containing the portraits of Mr. Gladstone’s first Cabinet, for which Lord Carlingford paid a thousand pounds, has been purchased by a subscription among the members, and is now in the inner hall. The anticipated number of 1,200 members has been reached, and a new privilege has been accorded to them, which will, perhaps, add considerably to their number, viz., the allowing brothers and sons of members to be elected without the payment of the thirty guineas entrance fee.

“The addition of the Arlington Club has not only given room for an increased number of members, but has much contributed to the ventilation—which the wits of the Club say accounts for the remarkable longevity of the members; and, during its twelve years of existence, only two of its founders, or members of committee, or trustees, have died, the Right Hon. W. P. Adam (attributable to his removal to India), and Mr. Samuel Morley. The former is admirably represented in a noble full-length portrait in the Northern Reading Room, and very humbly in his trusteeship by,

“Ever very truly yours,

“CHARLES DE LA PRYME.

“Louis Fagan, Esq.”

The DEVONSHIRE CLUB occupies the premises formerly known as Crockford’s* gaming house. Crockford—who had been a fishmonger in Temple Bar Without—began by taking Watier’s Club-house, in partnership with one Taylor. They set up a hazard bank, but separated at the end of the first year. Crockford removed to St. James’s Street, and built the house now in existence. It consists of two wings and a centre, with four Corinthian pilasters, and entablature and a balustrade throughout; the ground floor has Venetian windows, and the upper

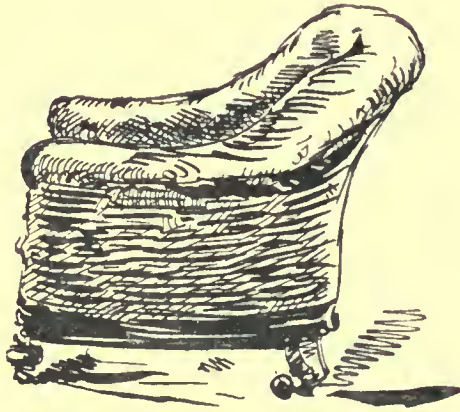
* See Timb’s.

story large French windows. The entrance-hall had a screen of Roman-Ionic scagliola columns with gilt capitals, and a cupola of gilding and stained glass. What was the library has Siena columns and antæ of the Ionic order, from the Temple of Minerva Polias; the staircase is panelled with scagliola and enriched with Corinthian columns. The Grand Drawing Room (now the Coffee Room) is in the style of Louis Quatorze. After Crockford's death, the Club-house was sold by his executors for £2,900; held on lease, of which thirty-two years were unexpired, subject to a yearly rent of £1,400. In 1849, the building was furnished and opened for the Military, Naval, and County Service Club, but was closed in 1851. It then became "the Wellington" Restaurant.

During the period of the REFORM being closed in 1878, it was for the first time fully and worthily decorated, according to Sir Charles Barry's original designs, for when the structure was finished the ornamentation of the interior was imperfectly done, so that after thirty-seven years it became necessary not only to clean but to embellish the hall and apartments. The work was carried out under the superintendence of Mr. E. M. Barry, R.A. (Sir Charles' son), who died 27th January, 1880.

Regarding first the hall and entrance, the columns and pilasters of scagliola were repaired and renewed. The portions of the entablature, formerly in imitation marble, were painted, and the grained woodwork in the various rooms was enriched with gilding. Portions of the walls were plastered in a manner to represent veined marble, and painted dark red—the artistic effect thus being an apparent expansion in the size of the hall, and the formation of a harmonious, richly-toned background for the Siena columns. On the ceiling, panels of light blue, with leaves surrounding, were introduced. The staircase was repolished, and to obtain extra light the ceiling was washed in bright colour, with dark margins. The Coffee Room was painted in two shades of brown; the dado, red and black, the woodwork generally, brown; the walls, light green with red margins, and the ceiling of stone colour, with margins of brown and red, and gilded decorations on the cornices. The Strangers' Dining Room resembles the Coffee Room, but is treated more simply and in better tones. The Morning Room was ornamented in brown, as a general tint; and light brown, with panels of blue and gold. The Card Room had its walls covered with dark leather paper, and mouldings. As to the Library, the whole was richly decorated, the ceiling especially, the groundwork adopted being light-green bronze colour. The flutings of the columns and pilasters—which are beaded—the heads, capitals and parts of the bases were gilded. The Large Smoking Room resembles the Morning Room. The Small Smoking Room was decorated in a so-called Pompeian manner; the dado in red, with panels of black, enriched with vases. Above the dado are arcades, with light pilasters and columns. The arched panels are in light blue, as if open to the air, and with birds and plants, &c. The ceiling has canted sides in lieu of a cove, and large centre panels. The canted parts are painted with trellis work, and green leaves, while the central panel is treated as a velarium stretched from trellis to trellis. In the centre is a gasolier. With a view to complete *ventilation*, vertical pipes conveying fresh air were placed in the various apartments and within the walls. At the foot of

each pipe is placed Verity's patented apparatus, consisting of a small circular fan, moved by the action of minute jets of water, the effect of which is to force fresh air into the rooms at any rate of velocity which may be required. For the general works, Messrs. Perry & Co. were the contractors; the decoration was carried out by Mr. Schmidt; the scagliola-work by Messrs. Bellman and Ivey, and the kitchen fittings by Messrs. Feetham. Mr. Edgar was Clerk of the Works.



CHAPTER XI.

THE REFORM CLUB possesses an interesting series of historical portraits.

The true aim and end of Art, is, not merely to gratify the sight but to satisfy the mind, or, in other words, to excite ideas either nearly or remotely connected with the subject of the picture. The ideas will, naturally, accord with the associations of the individual, his education, his course of thinking and his habits of life. A painting may be disregarded by some, that will fix the attention of others, but in the case of portraits the pleasure which all derive from viewing the faithful likenesses of illustrious men, is next to that of seeing the persons themselves. The canvas or marble before us becomes even more interesting from the eminence of the personage represented, than from its own intrinsic excellence. The intrinsic excellence or value of the portraits by Titian, Velasquez, Rembrandt, Anthony van Dyck, Reynolds, or any other great master, arose first from the transcendent powers of the artists in the higher branch of their art ; but history enabled them to bring into the field of portrait-painting more than the talent required for a mere portrait-painter ; hence the importance of the noble reproductions by these men.

The portraits about to be considered were, with the exception of two, introduced into the REFORM CLUB, after the decease of the Statesmen and others whom they represent. The rule adopted on the 17th of March, 1842, that no portraits of living Reformers should be received by the Committee, was set aside in the cases of Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Villiers.

With these few preliminary observations we will commence our artistic tour. To the right, on entering the hall, the first portrait which presents itself is that of ROBERT, MARQUIS OF WESTMINSTER, K.G. The Marquis is seen full-length in his robes of the Garter, with his right hand resting on a table. He was the only surviving child of the first Earl Grosvenor. When twenty-one years of age he sat in Parliament for the borough of East Looe and became Lord of the Admiralty ; he subsequently represented Chester for many years, until his accession to the peerage in 1802. The Earl opposed the Bill of Pains and Penalties against Queen Caroline, voted for the repeal of the Test and Corporation Act, and also in favour of the Reform Bill.

He became Marquis on the coronation of King William IV., and was elected a member of the REFORM CLUB by the Committee, March 27th, 1840.

This portrait, a copy probably after Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A., was presented to the CLUB by Lord Robert Grosvenor, May 2nd, 1845.

Then follow in succession :—The portrait of WILLIAM JOSEPH DENISON, M.P., somewhat less than full length. Mr. Denison is seated, turned towards the left,* with his right hand on his cane, and the left placed on some documents lying on a table. He first sat in Parliament for the borough of Camelford in 1796. In 1802, Mr. Denison became a candidate for Kingston-upon-Hull. In 1818, he was returned for Surrey and re-elected at eight subsequent elections. He was an original member of the REFORM CLUB. This portrait, presented by Lord Albert Conyngham, in September, 1849, is a copy of Frederick R. Say's painting, which has been engraved in mezzotint by William Giller.

GEORGE WILLIAM, LORD SAYE AND SELE. The size and attitude are nearly the same as in the preceding portrait, but he is turned to the right. He holds in his right hand a letter. He succeeded to the peerage, July 1st, 1788. He was a steady adherent of the Whig party, and was an original member of the REFORM CLUB. The portrait was painted by James Godsell Middleton in 1845, and presented to the CLUB by his lordship's son, June 27th, 1845.



LORD PALMERSTON, a whole-length figure, is represented standing and turned towards the left. His right hand rests on some documents lying on a writing-desk.

In 1806, Lord Palmerston contested the representation of Cambridge University with Lord Henry Petty. Being defeated, he accepted the seat for the pocket borough of Bletchingly. In the succeeding Parliament he sat for Newport in the Isle of Wight. During the latter part of his life he represented Tiverton.

This portrait was executed by G. Lowes C. Dickinson, from a photograph. His lordship was an original member of the REFORM CLUB.

LORD RUSSELL's is a whole-length figure, seated near a desk. He is turned towards the right, holding in his hand a pen. On the floor, to the left, are two red despatch boxes.

Lord Russell was the author of the Reform Act of 1832. He entered Parliament in 1813, and sat for the borough of Tavistock. He also represented, in succession, Huntingdonshire, the borough of Bandon, and the undivided county of Devon in the unreformed Parliament. After the passing of the Reform Act he sat for South Devon, then for Stroud, and afterwards for the City of London from 1841 to 1861, when he was elevated to the peerage. He was an original member of the REFORM CLUB. This portrait was painted by James Archer, R.S.A., from a photograph.

* In the following descriptions, *right* and *left* are the right and left of the SPECTATOR, NOT of the paintings.



LORD MACAULAY's figure is seen to beneath the knees, seated, almost full face, but looking towards the right—the hands joined and resting on his cane.

Lord Macaulay espoused the Liberal cause in politics, and was one of its ablest defenders. In 1830 he was appointed a Commissioner of Bankruptcy, and returned as Member for Calne, owing his seat to the Marquis of Lansdowne. He afterwards became Secretary to the Board of Control. In the debates on the Reform Bill he strenuously supported the Grey Ministry.

His lordship became a member of the REFORM CLUB, February 6th, 1839. This portrait, painted from a photograph, was executed by James Archer, R.S.A., in 1880.

THE RIGHT HON. C. P. VILLIERS, M.P. The painting is more than a three-quarter-length. Mr. Villiers is seated at a desk on which are some Parliamentary papers, &c. He is turned to the right, almost in profile. A sketch of Mr. Villiers has already appeared at page 39. This portrait was painted from the life by Arthur S. Cope, and exhibited at the Royal Academy, in 1885.

The portrait of DANIEL O'CONNELL, M.P., is a whole-length standing figure, in a landscape. He is slightly turned towards the right and is arrayed in a cloak. On the left is a view of Darrynane Abbey, and on the right, in the foreground, a dog.

Mr. O'Connell was returned to Parliament by a large majority of the Clare electors, in 1828, and for his native county of Kerry, in 1831. Dublin enjoyed his services as its representative from 1832 to 1836, when he was petitioned against and unseated, after a long contest before a Committee of the House of Commons. He then for some time represented Kilkenny, but at the general election of 1837, was once more returned for the city of Dublin, and in 1841 for the county of Cork. This portrait was painted by Joseph Haverty, in 1830.

On the west side of the Strangers' Room, are two busts in imitation of bronze, placed on marble pedestals. The one nearest to the door represents THE RIGHT HON. SIR WILLIAM MOLESWORTH, BART. On the passing of the Reform Act of 1832, Sir William was returned to Parliament as a Member for the eastern division of the county of Cornwall, in the Liberal interest, to support the Grey Ministry. He represented Leeds from 1837 to 1841. This bust was presented by Mr. Woolcombe, in May, 1860. It is the work of William Behnes, dated 1842. The other bust represents THE RIGHT HON. CHARLES BULLER, who entered Parliament on the eve of the Reform Bill, for the borough of West Looe. Buller was a zealous opponent of the Corn Laws, long before those under whom he assumed office took up the question, and he even declared against property qualifications for members. This bust, presented by Mr. Woolcombe, in May, 1860, is the work of Henry Weekes, R.A., dated 1849. Between these two busts is the portrait—nearly whole length—of WILLIAM MAKEPEACE THACKERAY, who is seen standing almost full face, with both hands in his trousers' pockets. In 1857, Thackeray contested Oxford in the Liberal interest, but was defeated by a few votes. He became a member of the REFORM CLUB, March 11th, 1840. This portrait was painted from a photograph, by Samuel Lawrence, in 1880. In

April, 1866, permission was given to Mr. W. McCullagh-Torrens, M.P., to exhibit in the CLUB, for the period of three months, a marble bust of Mr. Thackeray.

On the south side of the room is a work of Frederick Yeates Hurlstone, representing Christopher Columbus on board his vessel, pointing towards the undiscovered continent. It was presented by Mr. Wynn Ellis in 1871, and who died in November, 1875. He was well known as a great collector of pictures. Mr. Ellis sat as M.P. for Leicester about 1830, and both before and after the Reform Bill, represented that constituency as an advanced Liberal for eighteen years. He was an active member of Committees of the House, especially with regard to the repeal of the Corn Laws, Free Trade, reform of the laws in Bankruptcy, and on Partnership.

The six marble busts in the hall and corridors adjoining it, represent four distinguished Statesmen; besides CROMWELL, and Her Majesty QUEEN VICTORIA, the latter mentioned at page 70.

In the north-west corner is the bust of LORD PALMERSTON; presented by Mr. James Carlyle, in the name of his brother, Mr. Robert Carlyle, in 1879. Executed by Matthew Noble, in 1860. In the south-west corner is that of LORD BROUGHAM; presented by Mr. Henry Francis Makin, in 1869. Executed by John Adams Acton. In the south-east corner is OLIVER CROMWELL's bust; presented by Mr. Thomas Bailey Potter, M.P., in 1864, together with the pedestal. Executed by Matthew Noble, in 1860. In the north-east corner is RICHARD COBDEN's bust; presented by Mr. Thomas Bailey Potter, M.P. Executed by Matthew Noble, in 1866. In front of the looking-glass, on the west side, and facing the staircase, stands MR. GLADSTONE's bust; presented by the executors of Mr. James Carlyle, in 1879. It is the work of John Adams Acton.

We now ascend the staircase. The first panel, on the north side, at present contains no portrait, but it is proposed to place there, that of MR. BRIGHT. In the next is LORD BROUGHAM's,



who is seen whole length, standing, full face, with his left hand resting on a table, and the right hand in the waist. Lord Brougham obtained a seat in the House of Commons for the Duke of Cleveland's nomination borough of Camelford, in 1810. From 1816 to 1830, he sat for Winchelsea, and in the latter year was elected for Yorkshire. He took up with great energy the question of Reform, and opposed the arbitrary rule of the Tory Government, especially the suspension of the *Habeas Corpus* in England, and other measures which he regarded as the practical negation of constitutional liberties. Lord Brougham never

was a member of the REFORM CLUB. This portrait, painted by Henry William Pickersgill, R.A., was purchased at Christie's, by the Committee of the CLUB, in 1875.

HENRY RICHARD VASSALL, third LORD HOLLAND, is shown nearly full length, seated, and turned towards the left, his right hand rests on a walking stick, and the left arm on a table.

His lordship's first appearance in the House of Lords was in opposition to the Assessed Tax Bill, brought in by Pitt, but Lord Holland's most conspicuous services are, his support of Earl Grey's motions in 1821, for an inquiry into the conduct of the Allied Powers in their aggression

on Naples, and his steady advocacy of Parliamentary Reform. Lord Holland was an original member of the REFORM CLUB. This portrait, the first placed here, was presented by Sir Charles Barry, October 21st, 1841, and painted by J. Ponsford, of Plymouth, after Charles Robert Leslie, R.A. (see page 85).

H.R.H. AUGUSTUS FREDERICK, DUKE OF SUSSEX. Whole length, in court dress, seated, turned to the right, with a paper in his left hand, inscribed :—"Reform Bill. Address of His "Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex. House of Lords, 1832."

The Abolition of the Slave Trade, Catholic Emancipation, the removal of the Civil Disabilities of the Dissenters and of the Jews, Parliamentary Reform, the Amelioration of the Criminal Laws, and the promotion of Education, all received from His Royal Highness steady and availing support. This portrait was placed in the CLUB in May, 1844.

The next frame will shortly contain a portrait of THE RIGHT HON. W. E. FORSTER, M.P. ; by Mr. Henry Tanworth Wells, R.A.

RICHARD COBDEN, M.P., appears whole length, seated, facing the spectator, resting his cheek on his left hand, and the elbow on a desk : his right hand is in his trousers' pocket. This canvas, painted by G. Lowes C. Dickinson, in 1870, is from a photograph and a picture which the artist had done from the life some years previously. A replica, now in the National Portrait Gallery, was presented by 474 members of the REFORM CLUB, in July, 1870.



THE RIGHT HON. EDWARD ELLICE, M.P., the founder of the REFORM CLUB. Whole length, seated, turned towards the left. In front of him is a table upon which there are some books and a map of America. On the floor, towards the right, lie several volumes. This painting, from a photograph, by Sir Daniel Macnee, P.R.S.A., was paid for by the CLUB, and placed here in August, 1866.

CHARLES POULETT, LORD SYDENHAM AND TORONTO. Nearly whole length, standing. He is turned to the left, with his right hand placed on some documents. Lord Sydenham was one of the representatives of Manchester from 1832 to 1839. On the reconstruction of the Whig Government, under Lord Melbourne, he was appointed to the Presidency of the Board of Trade, a post which he resigned in order to assume the Governor-Generalship of Canada. This portrait, painted after Samuel William Reynolds, was placed here in May, 1842.

THE RIGHT HON. CHARLES, EARL GREY. Whole length, in court dress, standing, slightly turned towards the right. His right hand rests on a despatch box, near which is a document inscribed :—"Bill to Amend the Representation of the People, 1831-2."

Lord Grey never was a member of the REFORM CLUB, his portrait however is fully entitled to this place of honour. If not the father of Reform, his lordship was certainly one of its most eminent promoters. The history of his career, in connection with the great Reform question alone, would fill a massive volume, and his speeches another. Suffice it to say that, on the 22nd of

November, 1831, this eminent Whig statesman was commissioned to form a government, on condition that the Reform Bill, the great and sole object of his political life, should be introduced by him.

JOHN GEORGE LAMBTON, EARL OF DURHAM. Nearly full-length, the body slightly turned towards the left, but the face looking in the opposite direction.

Lord Durham entered Parliament in 1814. Some of his earliest speeches in the House of Commons were in vindication of the rights of nations. Passing over many political conflicts, we arrive at the year 1832, when his lordship nobly supported Earl Grey, in a series of speeches full of force and eloquence, and of statistical information. Earl Durham was an original member of the REFORM CLUB. This portrait is painted by H. Boughton, after Sir Thomas Lawrence, P.R.A.

There are on this floor, HAMPDEN'S marble bust, already described at page 61, and in a niche, on the right on entering the corridor, leading to the small smoking room, is a cast of a bust of DANIEL O'CONNELL, executed by John E. Jones, mentioned at page 82. The original, in marble, was exhibited at the Royal Academy, in 1844. On the 14th of May, 1846, O'Connell wrote to the sculptor as follows :—"The bust is admirable, as a work of art it does you the greatest credit, " and it is a most striking likeness—ininitely more like than any other bust attempted of me. " My friends are unanimous in approving of it highly, both for execution and correct resemblance."

In the Card Room, are two portraits in oil. On the western side is that of RALPH BERNAL OSBORNE, painted from a photograph by Carlo Pellegrini, and on the east side, the RIGHT HON. MAULE RAMSAY, eleventh EARL OF DALHOUSIE. He was elected M.P. for Perthshire in the Liberal interest in 1834, and, on the formation of the Melbourne Ministry in 1835, became Under Secretary for the Home Department. In 1838, he sat for the Elgin burghs, and in 1841 for Perth. This portrait was purchased by sixteen members of the CLUB and presented in 1880. Finally, in the Large Smoking Room, there is a marble bust of CHARLES JAMES FOX.

Let us now consider our Library, perhaps the pride of the CLUB.

The advancement of literature has in all ages owed much to public and private libraries, and the collection at the REFORM CLUB may well claim a high position among the private libraries of Europe. Scarcely was the new building completed when steps were taken by members to purchase books. The earliest reference to the subject bears date of May 23rd, 1837, when Mr. Grote and Mr. Sharpe received the sum of £200 in order to acquire such works as they deemed best. But it was not till November 18th, 1841, that a sub-Committee for dealing specially with the Library was established. It consisted of Mr., afterwards Sir Benjamin Hawes,* Mr. Robert Hutton, Mr. Thomas B. Burcham and Mr. Joseph Hume. Shortly after their first meeting, those gentlemen addressed the following report to the General Committee :—

" The sub-Committee have considered in what manner a Library suitable for the use of the

* Sir Benjamin Hawes was Chairman of the British Museum Committee of 1835-36.

“ members can be formed, at the smallest expense to the Club, and recommend that a circular be
“ immediately sent to all the members, inviting them to present to the Club, books, maps and
“ documents, and especially to those who have been, or who are, Members of the Legislature, in
“ the hope that they may have Parliamentary Papers which they can spare.

“ The Committee consider that the Library should be as complete as possible for reference,
“ especially on Parliamentary subjects, and if the General Committee approve, they request the
“ opinion and assistance of Mr. Vardon, the Librarian of the House of Commons, Mr. Panizzi of
“ the British Museum and a member of the Club, and of any other persons who may be qualified
“ to point out the best course to be adopted, being convinced that expense will be saved and the
“ convenience of reference be increased on a proper plan, capable of being continued and enlarged
“ from year to year.”

It is a fact worthy of note, and one which considerably enhances the importance of our Library, that at the outset the services of the greatest librarian of our time were secured. Mr., afterwards Sir Anthony Panizzi, K.C.B., was an original member of the REFORM CLUB, and sat, first, on the General Committee in 1841. At the special request of Mr. Ellice, Mr. Grote and



Mr. Hume, the future Principal Librarian of the British Museum undertook the agreeable task of drawing up a few rules for cataloguing the books already purchased. In this work Panizzi was aided by Mr. Thomas Vardon, then Librarian of the House of Commons. The rules were based on the same plan as those of the National Library, and the list of the books to be purchased as

speedily as possible was prepared by Mr. Panizzi, Sir John Doratt, and Mr. Pryme. In the year 1839, Antonio Panizzi, Thomas Watts,* John Winter Jones,† Edward Edwards, and John Humphreys Parry, afterwards Serjeant Parry, met together for the purpose of framing rules for cataloguing the British Museum Library. Each prepared, according to his own views, regulations for the compilation of the projected work, and when any difference arose it was settled by a vote. The rules so drawn up—which were officially sanctioned on July 13th, 1839—were then, and still are acknowledged to be, the best ever compiled. No one has yet improved upon them, though the attempt has often been made. Nor was the recognition which they received merely local, it extended throughout Europe and America. The rules as laid down by Panizzi, to catalogue the REFORM CLUB Library, were :—

“ 1st. All works to be catalogued under the family name of the author when it appears on the title-page, or occurs (printed) in any other part of the book.

“ 2nd. Pseudonymous works to be catalogued under the assumed name of the writer ; the real name to be added in brackets when known.

“ 3rd. Anonymous works to be catalogued under the first substantive occurring in the title, and the name of the author, when known, to be added as above.

“ 4th. Collected works of various authors to be entered under the collector's name, or (according to circumstances) under the name of the first author mentioned in the title.

“ 5th. Cross references to be made from the names of the authors supplied as above, from the several ways of spelling their names, from their several names when they have more than one, and from the names of individual authors whose works form part of the collection.

“ 6th. An alphabetical index of subjects to be kept up at the same time, and, under each leading word of the title, a reference to be made to the name of the author, or word, under which the book is entered in the catalogue.

“ 7th. If a title-page be so obscure as not to give an idea of the subject of the work, a very brief description of its subject to be added to the entry of the title-page, from which to take the word or words for index of matters.”

Having introduced Panizzi's name into the discussion, I must now give some details respecting him. About the year 1841, there certainly did not exist any public officer who was more abused than this Italian bibliophile. For a long time he was held up to the English public as a kind of ogre placed in the Library of the British Museum to maintain foreign refinements against “English common-sense.” Year after year a portion of the Press made him the object of personal attack.

Panizzi was born at Brescello, near Parma, in 1797. Having taken part in the revolution of 1821, he was sentenced to death. He escaped, came to England, and entered the British

* Afterwards Keeper of Printed Books, British Museum.

† Afterwards Principal Librarian, British Museum.

Museum ten years later. In 1837 he was appointed Keeper of the Printed Books, and from that period dates the rapid rise of our National Library. Panizzi was knighted in 1869, and died in 1878.

The Library of the REFORM CLUB cannot boast, nor does it pretend to contain, rarities or unique copies of books. Its printed alphabetical catalogue was compiled by our Librarian, Mr. Charles W. Vincent. The preface to this work is by Mr. W. Fraser Rae, Chairman of the Library Committee, and who has been a member of the CLUB since 1860. The first copy of the catalogue was placed upon the table at the General Meeting of 1883.

An alphabetical catalogue—the most practically useful of all—has this great advantage, that it exhibits all the works of the same author under one heading. Those who have had to hunt up old subjects know well that of all collocations this is the most desirable. Again, those who frequent a library to read upon a given subject, know as a rule what authors to consult, and an alphabetical catalogue settles the question, whether the library does or does not contain the particular work of the author in question. A classified catalogue is important for those who desire to learn what has been written on a particular subject, but such a class catalogue can only be useful to students who are already versed in the generalities of a specific branch of knowledge, and are seeking for minute information upon some detail.

The first Book Catalogues were the Sale Catalogues of the printers. In England, the earliest appeared in London in 1658, with a preface by William London. It bears on the title-page “the like work never yet performed by any.” This book has been attributed to a bookseller of great note, Thomas Guy, the founder of the Hospital which bears his name. In 1686, there appeared an Auction Catalogue of Books of Richard Davis, an Oxford bookseller. It contains more than ten thousand lots, arranged in subjects, subdivided into sizes, and with dates affixed; and, in fact, the body of the catalogue is superior to what are now issued by auctioneers. But the history of the REFORM CLUB LIBRARY is the subject under present consideration. Its first Librarian was Mr. Yapp. He commenced his duties by cataloguing Parliamentary Papers, of which two hundred and six volumes were presented by Mr. Charles Romilly. In 1843, the Library contained upwards of twelve hundred books, its present number is above thirty-five thousand volumes.

Mr. Yapp tendered his resignation on the 17th of March, 1847, and his services are recorded in these flattering terms:—“In accepting Mr. Yapp’s resignation, the Library Committee are “happy to express their sense of his valuable services and their regret at losing them.” His successor was Mr. Henry Campkin, whose duties as Librarian commenced on the 12th of April, 1847, and continued until 1879. He retired upon his full salary, and still holds the office of Honorary Librarian.

I have already referred (at page 92) to the important changes which took place in 1853, when that which was the Library became a Smoking Room, and the Drawing Room the present Library. Up to this year the Library had been under the management of a sub-Committee of the General

Committee, but on May 6th, 1852, it was agreed that "A Library Committee of three members shall also be elected, independently of the General Committee." The first Annual Report issued by this independent body appeared in May, 1853. It ran as follows :—

" The Library Committee appointed by the General Meeting of the Club in May last, beg to report that, in order to obviate the frequent complaints to which the arrangement of the books in the Library gave rise, they directed its entire re-arrangement, which was completed last autumn. The volumes are now collected together in a mode approximating as nearly to a general classification, according to the subjects to which they relate respectively, as the limited extent of the Library will allow ; the references in the catalogue have been much simplified, and new catalogues of the books, in the order in which they stand on the shelves in each of the rooms, have been compiled.

" Considerable progress has been made in the arrangement and binding of the Parliamentary papers belonging to the Club. About fifty volumes have been bound during the recess, and the Committee believe that at the date of the next Report a much larger number will have been placed upon the shelves.

" The Committee found on their appointment in May last, that not more than £90 have been expended during the then current year by the General Committee on additions to the Library. By the application of the £200 voted for the purchase of books at the last Annual Meeting, the Committee have made many important additions to the collection of English State papers, and that department is now in as forward a state as the condition of the market relative to such books has enabled them to make it. The following additions have also been made to the Library during the past year, viz. :—A collection of Greek classics, comprising 103 volumes. A set of the 'British Essayists.' Several works on the important department of English topography, being the commencement of what they hope will ultimately become a complete collection for the different counties in England. Some valuable books in the departments of general history, elegant literature, books of general reference, &c. A classified list of all the above donations is hereto appended.

" A separate list of the donors to the Library is also added ; and the Committee, in expressing their thanks to them on behalf of the Club, beg to impress on the members generally, how largely and how much more rapidly the efficiency of the Library may be increased by such means, as an auxiliary to the purchases which are made towards the same end, and for which an annual vote limited to £250 is not immediately sufficient. The Library Committee, therefore, in conclusion, beg to suggest a vote of £250 at least for the present year should be granted to them."

It was just before this time that a small collection of books was selected and placed in the Servants' Hall, for their use. This considerate step greatly pleased the officials, as may be gathered from the accompanying letter :—

“ Reform Club,

“ December 10th, 1852.

“ MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

“ Permit us (the Servants of the Reform Club) most respectfully to tender you our grateful
“ acknowledgments and warmest thanks for the interest you have expressed in our welfare, and
“ for your kind liberality in providing us with a Library for our instruction and amusement.

“ Our duties and situation in life prevent us from availing ourselves of the various
“ opportunities afforded for mental improvement by means of public Libraries and Reading
“ Rooms. But by your kindness and generosity we have now the means of improvement within
“ our reach, and whilst we beg to assure you, my Lords and Gentlemen, that we are deeply sensible
“ of the boon you have conferred upon us, we would add our earnest wish that the future may
“ prove that we so appreciate our increased means of mental instruction as to be better fitted to
“ discharge the duties of our station with credit to ourselves and increased satisfaction to our
“ employers.

“ Signed on behalf of the Servants,

“ F. MURREL.

“ J. HOLLOWAY.”

On the 31st of October, 1862, a legacy of £100 was left to the Library by Mr. Thomas Wadsworth.



CHAPTER XII.

AN historical record of the REFORM CLUB would be incomplete without some allusion to the many banquets which have been given, within its walls, from time to time, to men of distinction and eminence:—"Dulce est desipere in loco," says Horace, and life would, indeed, be insupportable without its occasional periods of festivity and relaxation. Nor are these agreeable interchanges of feeling and enjoyment unimportant in themselves. England is justly celebrated for its hospitality and sociability, and although foreign critics may sneer at the constant tendency of Englishmen to entertain one another, it must be confessed that public dinners have often contributed to mollify and assuage the asperities of public life. As an actor lives by the breath of popular applause, so a statesman may not be superior to the sort of popular recognition and encouragement offered in convivial gatherings.

The REFORM CLUB has been the scene of many brilliant entertainments, some of which have been described at length in former chapters. At most of these the bulk of the members have united to pay a tribute to genius in its various forms. Statesmen, ambassadors, warriors, patriots and distinguished foreigners have been the guests of our CLUB.

I will now proceed to give a brief account, in chronological order, of the most noteworthy of these memorable festivities. The 27th of February, 1872, was a National Thanksgiving Day. There could be no more touching example of loyalty to the crown than that which was witnessed upon the recovery of the Prince of Wales, from the alarming illness with which he was attacked in the winter of 1871. The London streets along the whole route traversed by the royal *cortège*, were lined with dense throngs of people; but, as usual, Pall Mall presented not only the gayest but also the most brilliant aspect of any of the principal thoroughfares. The decorations were not so gaudy as those in some other parts,—they possessed the charm of simplicity and good taste. A stand was erected by the wall of MARLBOROUGH HOUSE, and the GUARDS' CLUB was conspicuous for the profusion of its decorations, its entire front being hidden by scarlet hangings. The Royal Standard waved over the WAR OFFICE, and a spacious gallery hung with crimson cloth fringed with gold, and surmounted by an awning, ran along the outside of the first floor. The ARMY AND NAVY, the CARLTON, the JUNIOR CARLTON, the TRAVELLERS', and the ATHENÆUM CLUBS, had flags and emblems of rejoicing. In the REFORM CLUB the Committee provided ample

accommodation for ladies to view the procession, besides a buffet and a band of music. The enthusiastic display on this occasion inspired a somewhat singular article, printed in *The Observer* of March 3rd, 1872, entitled "Thanksgiving Day from a Club Window," *i.e.*, the REFORM CLUB.

On the 18th of June, 1877, General U. S. Grant was entertained at a house dinner, by the members of the CLUB. General Badeau and the United States Minister to Russia were also present. Mr. Pierrepont, the United States Minister to this country, who had been invited was unable to attend, and Lord Derby, to whom an invitation was likewise sent—in order to show that the gathering was not a party one—expressed his regret that another and previous engagement prevented him from accepting it. Lord Granville was in the chair, and the late Right Hon. W. E. Forster, M.P., acted as vice-chairman. Four toasts only were drunk: "The Queen," proposed by the chairman; "The President and People of the United States," proposed by Mr. Forster, who said that in the American People he felt that he was praising his own countrymen; and responded to by the United States Minister to Russia, who concluded with the sentiment, heartily cheered, of "Liberal men and Liberal measures." Lord Granville, in reply, made a spirited speech, in which he recalled the changes which a century had wrought in the relations between the two kindred countries, and remarked that if in recent times, and at a critical moment, the course of true love did not run smooth, it was proved by the result that there was real love at bottom. General Grant expressed his intense satisfaction at the cordial greeting which he had received, which was typical of the reception he had enjoyed since his arrival in this country.

On the 23rd of June, 1877, a banquet was given to Midhat Pacha, Mr. Richard Baxter being chairman, and on the 22nd of February, 1879, the Earl of Dufferin dined at the CLUB, on the occasion of his return from Canada; while the Earl's departure for St. Petersburg, as Her Majesty's Ambassador, gave the proceedings somewhat also of a farewell character. Lord Granville presided. At his right sat the guest of the evening, and at his left the Marquis of Hartington. There were one hundred and fifty members present. The usual loyal toasts having been given, Mr. Forster proposed "The Army, Navy, and Reserve Forces," which was responded to by Lord Clarence Paget and Lord Waveney. After the health of the guest had been drunk, Lord Dufferin said:—

"My Lords and Gentlemen,—I am sure it will be readily understood by every one present
 "what difficulty I experience in finding words to express my deep sense of the honour which is
 "being done me by this noble entertainment, and by the generous welcome which has been
 "extended to me by those whom I see around me. Nor can I adequately express to your noble
 "chairman my thanks for the friendly part he has taken upon this occasion, and for the kind and
 "flattering reference which he has made to my past public career, and my recent services in
 "Canada. It would be in bad taste for me to take exception to anything which he has said, and
 "I am too proud of his good opinion not to wish that what he has said should be believed. Your
 "noble chairman has such a noble and generous disposition—he is so ready to see merit in other
 "people—that the task he has set himself to-night has naturally prospered in his hand. But I am

“ afraid I must admit that if my administration in Canada has been in any degree successful, that
“ result is to be attributed as much to my singular good fortune as to any other circumstance
“ that I can mention. When I arrived in the country, the great and difficult task of confederation
“ had been successfully completed by my two able predecessors. I found the people inspired with
“ pride and admiration for their new country, with a desire for a loftier and a nobler view than
“ any to which they had hitherto dared to aspire as a mere group of disconnected colonies. (Hear,
“ hear.) It was both a pleasant and an easy task for me to express my sympathy with those noble
“ and patriotic sentiments, and all the more easy because I at once perceived that their devotion to
“ their newly-created country stimulated and enhanced their patriotism and loyalty towards Great
“ Britain, and their pride and contentment with the political institutions under which they had so
“ rapidly prospered. The same auspicious influences were acting in an equally powerful manner
“ upon the minds of the French section of the population, and materially contributed in an equally
“ fortunate manner, to give me ample opportunity of gaining their confidence and esteem. In
“ addition to the recent conclusion of the great Civil War in America, and, above all things, as
“ my noble friend has most justly observed, the attitude of forbearance and dignified self-restraint
“ pursued by Great Britain in reference to the settlement of the Alabama claims, had created such
“ a profound impression upon the people of the United States, had inspired so friendly a feeling
“ towards Great Britain from one end of the Republic to the other, as to place the relations of the
“ Canadian Government, and of the representative of the Queen personally, upon the most
“ agreeable footing with our neighbours across the line—(cheers)—and I was never permitted to
“ invade their border without receiving at the hands of that noble and generous people the most
“ marked and flattering attention—the kindest and the most generous hospitality. (Cheers.)
“ But, gentlemen, notwithstanding what has been said by our noble chairman, I am afraid that in
“ my discharge of those very congenial and agreeable functions there are few achievements to
“ which I can really point as distinguishing my administration of Canadian affairs. If nothing less
“ satisfactory to this country has occurred during the course of that administration, it is to be
“ attributed to the patriotism, to the elevated spirit, and to the loyalty of the Canadian people
“ themselves—(cheers)—and, my lords and gentlemen, I freely confess that I should never consider
“ it as a compliment to the head of any self-governing community if there had been attributed to
“ him the exhibition of any personally-invented policy or any strenuous independent initiative.
“ (Cheers.) Although it must be admitted that the functions of the head of a colonial executive do
“ not entirely coincide with the attributes of the Crown in this country—although it is true that it
“ is occasionally desirable that he should make his influence felt, and even control the current
“ of events—his touch should be so light and so impalpable as to escape general observation, and
“ exempt him from all suspicion of a desire to meddle or tamper with the privileges of a self-
“ governing body. (Loud cheers.) But, my lords and gentlemen, whatever misgivings I may
“ entertain as to the justice and appropriateness of this exhibition of your approval and favour
“ to myself, there is one respect at all events, in which I can regard the demonstration of to-night

“ with unmitigated satisfaction. Making every allowance for the kindly feeling evinced towards
“ myself, I cannot but feel that it would be the extreme of egotism if I saw in it nothing but a
“ compliment to a mere individual. No, my lords and gentlemen, your presence here to-night
“ under such auspices as these is a proof, and as such it will be taken in Canada, of the interest, of
“ the affection, of the goodwill felt by some of the most distinguished and influential public men in
“ England, in the future destinies not only of Canada, but of every other colony of Great Britain.
“ I believe that the colonies have nowhere better friends than those whom I am now addressing.
“ (Hear, hear.) Of course, from the very nature of their principles, it follows that the pioneers of
“ liberal thought must indulge more unrestrainedly than those who belong to the opposite school
“ of politics, in disquisitions as to the speculative future, and there are many publicists amongst us
“ who have undertaken to forecast the eventual outcome of the colonial system, and in doing so
“ they have undoubtedly engaged in a very useful and honourable task. It is only by examining
“ every possible contingency that we are likely to discover the true line along which we ought to
“ proceed. But I am quite certain that it is no part of the Liberal policy to throw cold water
“ upon, or in any degree to discourage, those touching and affectionate exhibitions of loyalty
“ which are so rife in every colony—(cheers)—and I do not know any class of persons in this
“ country who have a greater right to take a pride in the present position of the Colonies than the
“ Liberal party. (Cheers.) Inasmuch as, amongst their many creditable antecedents, there is
“ none upon which they have a better right to congratulate themselves than upon the policy which
“ they originally suggested and subsequently carried out in regard to our several colonies. (Hear,
“ hear.) Ably and successfully as Canada has been administered under the auspices of successive
“ Secretaries of State, it must be universally admitted that she was originally started upon her
“ career of freedom, self-government and independence at the instigation of a Liberal administration,
“ and under the auspices of a Liberal emissary. (Hear, hear.) But not only so, my lords and
“ gentlemen; those somewhat variegated political convictions which so happily co-exist within
“ our midst will find in the political, and in the economical, and in the social policy of Canada,
“ their several aspirations most completely realized. Thus, established and non-established
“ churches of every sort and description abound in Canada. Every province affords a different
“ specimen of law and of popular franchise. Those who are disposed to cast a doubt upon the
“ perennial wisdom of the House of Lords will find in many a Canadian province the analogue
“ of that simply represented by a vacuum—(laughter)—and a yeoman, if not a peasant proprietary,
“ can be pointed to with satisfaction by all enthusiastic tenant-righters. Even the Irish patriots
“ will be able to discern in every provincial capital of the Dominion the envied insignia of Home
“ Rule. (Laughter.) But lest the enumeration of these consummated ideals should tempt the
“ entire Club to cast the dust of Pall Mall from off their feet, and migrate in a body to the Banks
“ of the Ottawa, I think it right to warn them that they will have to accustom their ears to some
“ very strenuous cries for the protection of native industries—(laughter)—that many of those
“ native institutions to which I have referred as constituting the policy of Canada are very severely

“ criticised, and that some of them at least run the risk of being abolished, and that there seems to
“ pervade the entire continent of America very grave misgivings as to the utility of universal
“ suffrage. But, my lords and gentlemen, it is not upon these transient and partial coincidences
“ of political ideas that the strength of the ties which bind the Dominion to the mother country
“ really depends. It is upon a far firmer and surer basis that the union is founded, for I believe
“ at this moment there is not a single man or woman in this country who will not recognise the
“ right of those brave men who go forth to spread the laws, the liberties, the language of Great
“ Britain in every quarter of the globe, to retain, so long as they may choose to value, and to claim
“ their birthright as English citizens—(cheers)—and, as our noble chairman has observed, so long
“ as any colony chooses to recognise the supremacy of the crown and those civil and military
“ obligations, so long it may safely claim its right to share in the past glory and the future fortunes
“ of the British Empire. (Cheers.) And here I should conclude my brief and imperfect
“ acknowledgment of the great honour which has been conferred upon me, had not your noble
“ chairman been pleased to refer in most kind and considerate language to my recent appointment
“ as Her Majesty’s Ambassador at St. Petersburg. It is needless to assure you that, although like
“ Hyperion, ‘enthroned in the flaming west,’ I have survived for some years the ruin which
“ overtook the Saturnian reign of Mr. Gladstone, and tumbled all my fellow gods into the dark
“ and shady valley of opposition, I should have been quite prepared at the appointed time to
“ have come back and taken my place amongst those discrowned but undismayed Titans—
“ (cheers)—whom I now find relegated to this very cheerful and excellently-furnished Tartarus.
“ (Laughter.) But circumstances have decided that I should remain for a short time longer, not
“ with the Olympus, but at all events in the upper air. Referring to these circumstances in
“ my character of a new-fledged diplomatist, I am instinctively reminded of those principles which
“ regulate the conduct of that honourable profession—namely, taciturnity and reserve. (Laughter.)
“ I will, therefore, simply state that the offer of the post in question was made to me in the most
“ generous and handsome manner. It was not expected, but at the same time I will admit that it
“ did not surprise me. For four or five years I had been endeavouring to the best of my ability
“ loyally to carry out the instructions I had been receiving from Her Majesty’s Government in the
“ dependency over which I had to preside. From time to time I had received assurances that
“ Her Majesty’s Government had been pleased to approve of the manner in which I had carried
“ out those instructions. When, therefore, perhaps in recognition of those services, I was offered
“ an opportunity of again serving my country in a post which is regarded, and, as I think, rightly
“ and conveniently regarded, as lying outside the sphere of party politics at home—(cheers)—I
“ had no hesitation in accepting the offer. I did not consult anyone, because upon such occasions
“ I think that one is the best judge of his own conduct. (Hear, hear.) But it has since been a
“ sincere pleasure to me to think that I have received from those whose opinions I most honour
“ and value the kindest assurances of their approval of my conduct, and if anything were wanting
“ to complete my satisfaction, it would be the presence to-night of this brilliant and sympathetic

“ assemblage. Gentlemen, I confess that I do not altogether contemplate the prospect before me
 “ without anxiety. I am well aware that I am about to embark in a line of employment for
 “ which I have not been so well fitted by previous experience. The post of Ambassador at the
 “ Court of St. Petersburg is a post of very great responsibility. Upon the intelligence and the
 “ correctness with which the Ambassador of his Sovereign appreciates the situation around him—
 “ upon the force, the vitality, with which he submits his convictions to his official superiors may
 “ depend the amity of two nations and the peace of Europe. (Hear, hear.) But when I
 “ remember the kind, patient and generous way in which the people of England judge all their
 “ servants serving the country abroad, I trust I may depart in the confident hope that it will
 “ eventually be found that neither the honour, nor the interest, nor the dignity of my Queen
 “ and country, nor the peace of England will have been entrusted to unworthy hands. (Loud
 “ cheers.) Now, my lords and gentlemen, I have only to conclude by thanking you, from the very
 “ bottom of my heart, not only for the patience with which you have listened to me, but for the
 “ kind and generous reception which you have been pleased to accord me. I can most truly and
 “ conscientiously say that this is the greatest honour I have ever received, and as long as I live I
 “ shall remember it with gratitude, and I trust that these ties of private friendship and of political
 “ sympathy which unite me with my kind entertainers will never be severed nor decay. (Loud
 “ cheers.) I must ask permission of the chairman to propose a toast. It is ‘The Health of the
 “ ‘Reform Club,’ and I trust that the rejuvenated appearance of its apartments is the fit emblem
 “ of its expanding hopes, and of its blossoming destiny.”

The other speakers were, Mr. Richard Baxter, then chairman of the CLUB, the Marquis of Hartington, Sir William Harcourt and Sir Henry James, all members of the CLUB.

On the 26th of April, 1884, a complimentary dinner was given by the Committee of the REFORM CLUB, to Lord Hampden, G.C.B., on his resignation of the office of Speaker, to mark their appreciation of the distinguished ability with which, for the long and unexampled period of twenty-one years, he had presided over the House of Commons. Lord Hampden became a member of the REFORM CLUB in 1858.

On the 15th of November, 1884, the Right Hon. Henry Campbell-Bannerman, M.P., was entertained at a dinner by the Political Committee, on his appointment as Secretary for Ireland. Sir James Caird, K.C.B., then chairman of the CLUB, presided. Mr. Campbell-Bannerman became a member of the REFORM CLUB in 1868. Finally, on the 18th of July, 1885, a banquet was given to the Right Hon. Sir Charles Wentworth Dilke, Bart. The late Mr. Samuel Morley presided, and there were about forty members present. Sir Charles's speech, which dealt chiefly with Reform, the burning question of the day, was listened to with great interest and fully reported in the daily papers. Sir Charles Dilke became a member of the REFORM CLUB in 1867.

In completing my task, I cannot dismiss this volume without briefly drawing attention to the political aspect of the REFORM CLUB, which since its establishment has played a part in politics

that cannot be overlooked. My main object, in the production of these pages, has been to offer a faithful account, of that which I believe to be the finest architectural work of Sir Charles Barry, whose portrait I now append.



Incidental reference has been made to the various political functions exercised by the CLUB, and to the events commemorated within its walls; but more remains to be said respecting its true character as the recognised centre of English Liberalism. The passing of the great Act of 1832, materially changed the condition of the Liberal party. Its representation and leadership were no longer confined to the members of the Whig aristocracy. The middle-classes, for the first time, furnished a due proportion of Members to the House of Commons, while commerce and the learned professions shared with the landed interest and the two great services the control of the party policy. Thus it came to pass that BROOKS', though, or rather because, it retained its character as the centre of exclusive Whiggism, could not meet the demands of the enlarged Liberal party for Club-land. It was the aim, therefore, of the REFORM CLUB, to supply this want—and who shall say that it has not done so, and with success? In it the newly-elected Member of Parliament—perchance a stranger both to the social and political life of the capital—meets his colleagues on equal terms, and is brought into contact with the principal movers of his party outside the Parliamentary sphere. Here, too, he becomes acquainted with those who may be said to represent

the social side of Liberalism, and forms those friendships which so much contribute to lighten the burden of public duties. Nor is it only in the provision which it thus makes for the comfort and convenience of statesmen, writers and journalists, that our CLUB does good service to the party. From year to year, in different ways, it renders valuable aid to its principles and to Liberalism in the broadest sense. The REFORM has never been the creature, as it was not the creation, of any clique or coterie, either political or social. Its doors have been thrown open to the most "moderate" of Whigs, and the most advanced of Radicals. Not a few of those representatives of the working-classes, who have found their way into the House of Commons, have become members of our SOCIETY. It is, indeed, this catholicity which gives the Institution its importance as a centre of Liberalism in Great Britain. The party has experienced of late years more than one period of internal strife, yet the REFORM CLUB has not reproduced these dissensions—it has continued to shelter "Adullamites" and "Radicals," "Liberal Unionists" and "Gladstonians." Hence the members of the various sections into which a great party is from time to time necessarily divided, meeting constantly on common ground, have learned to know and to understand each other better than they could have done if no such place of *réunion* had existed. It would be difficult to exaggerate the importance of the CLUB as a place where all shades and grades of Liberalism are brought together in friendly intercourse. It is certain, moreover, that, in the past, more than one division among Liberals has been healed largely by the conciliatory influence of the HOUSE in Pall Mall, and the tendency to work together in harmony which there prevails. Every Reformer must cherish the hope that, in the future, as in the past, his CLUB will continue to play its part as a focus of Liberal thought, a stronghold of unity and a healer of divisions. By a truly happy coincidence our CLUB Jubilee corresponds with that of Her Majesty's reign; a fact which reminds us that the REFORM, no less than its great neighbour, the CARLTON, symbolizes the universal sentiment of loyalty to her august person and her throne. There is another feature of the political work of the REFORM CLUB, to which in conclusion attention may be directed, and that is, its position in the eyes of foreigners. It is the only political club which is known throughout the civilized world. The American in visiting London hopes to dine within its walls and to admire its stately apartments. Eminent European Liberals, likewise, seldom fail to visit Barry's building as guests; in short, all who come, whether from the east or the west, readily admit that the REFORM CLUB is a noble home for a great political party, and that—in the dignity of its architecture, the magnificence of its rooms and the completeness of all its arrangements, it is worthy of ENGLISH LIBERALISM.





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